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# MARYLAND FARMER:

DEVOTED TO

Agriculture, Horticulture, and Rural Economy.

VOL. 10.

BALTIMORE, JUNE, 1873.

No. 6.

## *Agricultural Calendar.*

### FARM WORK FOR JUNE.

This is one of the busiest months of the year for the farmer, and especially so for the Planter. The tobacco crop must be pitched this month; the corn crop ought to be "laid by;" harvest and hay making and other important matters to be all done, and many of them to be done at the same time, allowing no delay. From our own observations in the country and what we hear, we predict this will be a year propitious to the hopes of the land worker, and that the husbandman will reap the full fruition of his labors. So mote it be.

#### TOBACCO.

This valuable crop, we again repeat, should be planted as early as possible on rich, well prepared, highly manured land, and cultivated with care, guarded against its enemies and have sufficient labor to allow it never to suffer from neglect in any way, and it will repay all expenses and trouble far better than any crop grown in this country, notwithstanding the sales of it this spring have been depressing to the hopes of the growers. But the market has improved and will continue to do so we have reason to believe.

#### CORN CULTIVATION.

We have but little to add to our remarks, in our last number, upon the culture of this useful and necessary crop. No crop suffers more from neglect than corn; it is a cormorant feeder, grows rapidly, and impatient of the presence of weeds and grass, therefore requires rich soil, deep and clean preparation of the land, rapid working until it shades the land when it should be left, if it is perfectly clean, of grass. The whole working on good soil, may be done in four weeks after being planted if the ground had been first well prepared.

#### LATE POTATOES AND ROOT CROPS.

These may now be planted, before the 15th at

the farthest. Potatoes can be planted up to the last of the month, but it is better, to have planted them last month, in most seasons early planting is best, last year it was certainly so.

#### RUTA BAGA, BEETS, MANGOLDS, AND CARROTS

may be planted this month before the 10th, but it is quite late for all except the first, and from 10th to 20th of the month is best time for ruta bagas or swedes. For the cultivation of these crops, we refer to our suggestions lately made.

#### MILLET AND CORN BROADCAST.

These important helps for soiling or supplying a deficiency in the hay crop, can now be sown.— Either crop will repay the farmer for his labor whether he has a supply of forage or not.

#### CLOVER.

Cut clover early, after laying a few hours in the swarth, cock it in 100 lbs. cocks, and if the weather be good in 48 hours, they can be opened and then hauled to the rick or mow, and as it is carefully spread, use salt over every layer, that is 6 inches; half bushel of salt to the ton of green clover is said to be enough, though more would do no hurt. Clover requires great attention to make it into good hay, but when it is cured properly it is the best hay for sheep and cattle that we know, and for milch-cows it is very superior, if cut up, moistened and sprinkled with rye or corn meal and wheat bran.

#### ORCHARD GRASS AND TIMOTHY.

These, as well as all grasses, should be cut when just in bloom. They are easily cured and bring high prices. Indeed we hardly know of any crop which pays so well as a good hay crop, well managed, and near market, or conveniently transported by rail, or water. It is remarkable, that so little attention is given to the growing of grass, when it requires so little labor to secure the crop, and when it brings always a good price, and always in demand. It improves the land instead of impoverishing it, unless it is allowed to mature its seed

before being mowed for hay or depastured, in which event the hay will be much injured thereby, and the land as much exhausted, we believe, as it is by a wheat crop. In connection with this matter we call attention to the

#### MEASUREMENT OF HAY.

Much has been written upon this subject, and a contrariety of statements made, but we think it is because a proper allowance has not been made for the different kinds of grass, the order of the hay, and the degree to which it had settled when the different admeasurements were made and tested by the scales. As a sufficient approximate rule for the guidance of the farmer, we should say with *Waring*, author of *Farmers and Mechanics' Manual*, from 15 to 18 cubic yards will give a ton of hay. The former for well settled dry timothy, and the latter for lighter grasses, in like condition. When a farmer first puts his hay away in the mow, stack or rick, he can be sure that he has one ton of timothy or orchard grass for every 18 cubic yards, and the like amount for every 21 cubic yards of clover. This is near enough for his guidance in ascertaining whether he has any, and how much, for sale, and a safe rule for regulating his demands, if he sells by the stack, rick or mow, without the trouble of weighing. If hay be worth \$30 a ton in market, a farmer can afford to take at his farm \$20, and save weighing or packing, hauling and freight.

#### HARVEST.

Before we shall communicate with our readers again, the grain crops, wheat and rye will have been generally harvested. Let us advise that everything necessary for the dispatch of harvest should be provided before it is actually upon you. See that there be all the tools and implements necessary, in proper order, and that a sufficient force be secured; an abundant force is good economy at harvest time. Remember the presence of the master all the time in the field secures order, and the faithful performance of each man's duty. Once was the time, there was great discussion as to the proper time when wheat should be cut. But it has been long since settled by science and experiments, that to make the best of flour, have the wheat weigh more, and actually measure more, it should be harvested ten to twelve days before fully ripe, that is when just reaching the doughy state, some grains doughy, and some in the milk. Professor *Norton* says, "grain in the milk has but little woody fibre; nearly everything is starch, gluten, sugar, &c., with a large percentage of water," and concludes that to be the state in which it ought to be cut. Many of our most observant farmers have found since

labor has become so scarce, that much expense is saved at harvest by not binding into bundles, but putting it up with rakes and forks into good sized shocks like oats, make the heaps with sharp tops, and it will shed rain better than when in bundles. All grain should be got in the barn or threshed in the field as soon after harvest as possible. The latter plan seems best where barns are required for tobacco or other crops. The machine is taken to the field, and thus the hauling is facilitated. Here let us suggest that much neglect is manifested generally in securing the straw. It should as soon as threshed be put up in large high ricks, in the form of a house with a steep roof, the sides closely raked down, until they are perpendicular, and the whole well tramped. Straw well preserved, and kept dry and bright, brings a high price, from \$15 to \$25 per ton; last autumn it sold in this city as high as \$35, and rye straw in bundles we saw sell for \$45 per ton. Much the larger quantity is used for bedding horses, but much is used in paper making, packing goods, making cheap mattresses and beds. There is a steadily growing demand for clean, bright straw. We know a farmer who got twice as much for his rye straw flailed out, as he got for the grain last year. Since hay presses have been improved, and railroad facilities for transportation have increased, straw has become almost equal in profit to hay, and the day has passed when intelligent farmers allow it to be wasted, and suffered to stand until it becomes in the way, and set fire to, to get rid of it, as was the practice not long ago, and to be seen still with some sluggards, who neither put it in the barn-yard, nor stop gutters with it, though those may not be fifty yards off.

#### SHEEP.

The vile cur-dogs still carry on their work of destruction of this gentle but valuable animal.—Complaints come from every quarter of the damages done by these canine *Modocs*. If you have any sheep left, this is the time to shear them. Let this work be done gently and carefully. Many shearers cruelly cut and otherwise hurt the poor sheep by unskillfulness, and sometimes from sheer brutality. None should be allowed to do this work but those who are skillful, or such as desire to become so, and who will be careful and humane.—Now select such as are for the shambles, and mark each with paint, so as to distinguish them easily when you separate them from the brood flock. Select all the best lambs to be reserved. It is a ruinous policy to eat or sell all the best, and increase your flock with the runts that the butcher will not buy, and you will not eat. Wool now being in demand at high prices, fair lambs of im-



proved breeds bringing \$3 to \$6, and old sheep, well bred Southdown, Cotswold or Shropshire, made fat, worth from \$8 to \$15 each—sheep-raising ought to be a profitable business to the farmer.

## SALT.

Stock of all kinds require a great deal of salt at this season of the year, and they should be supplied not only with salt, but ashes and a little lime. A good plan is to get the large rock salt, and put a boulder of it on a poor place, and the spot will be rich by the time the stock have licked away a 40 pound lump.

## FIELD PEAS AND BEANS

Can be sown broadcast, drilled or planted in hills; they are worth growing at \$2 per bushel. At the last working of the corn they can be sown among the corn, and will make a luxuriant green crop, to be plowed under as a *reliable* fertilizer for the wheat crop.

## BUCKWHEAT.

A few acres of buckwheat might be sown for family consumption and sale. With the help of a bushel of plaster and three of salt, mixed and applied to the acre, a good crop will be produced on quite poor land.

## MEADOWS AND HAY GROUNDS.

After the hay has been removed, and the ground well raked with the sulky rake, so as to get off all the hay, dress with 200 lbs. of Missouri Bone Meal, or 10 bushels of fine ground bones or salt and plaster mixed in equal parts, say 4 bushels of the mixture, let no stock upon it for two months and then you will have a rich pasture for your colts, calves and mutton sheep or cows, but be careful and not let the grass be eaten down too close.

## AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

Now is the time to think what kinds of vegetable products and what stock you mean to exhibit so as to swell the attractions of your County and State Societies, and give encouragement by your own exertions to those institutions which have done and are doing so much toward the progress of your calling or occupation. You will be helping your own interest in thus aiding the Society. Select some crop or vegetable or animal and pay special attention to it, that it may bear off the ribbon, as the best of its kind, or you get the premium for the heaviest product per acre, by your superior skill and industry. Others will be stimulated by your efforts and encouraged by your success and a silent enterprise will permeate throughout your neighborhood, until a new order of things will spring up and bear fruits for the good of the whole community and the advancement of Agriculture.

## A NATIONAL STUD.

The Government of Quebec has granted \$5,000 annually in favor of a National Stud about to be organized with a capital of \$60,000, divided in 600 shares, under the management of Mr. Bonnement, a distinguished French agriculturist, Knight of the Legion of Honour, residing in Canada for the last twelve months. In consideration of this annual Government grant of \$5,000 for five years, or \$25,000, the company must keep on hand 30 imported stallions, to be disposed of for the season, in the month of May every year, to the highest bidder. The whole scheme has been planted in pamphlet form, which is sent free on application to Mr. Bonnement, Montreal.

## FRENCH TRANSLATOR'S COMMENTS.

To show what other sections are doing for the improvement of the existing stock of horses, we translate from a communication of M. P. B. Benoit, M. P., in the *La Semaine Agricole*, of February 21. We commend the subject, and the mode here made use of to the consideration of Southern farmers and agricultural societies. The first step is organization; *organize*, and the evils which embarrass our agriculture would speedily vanish. What a trifle would be the investment of \$10,000 by a county in improved stallions upon this system?

"*Mr. Editor:*—The Agricultural Society of the County of Chambly has just bought for \$2,500 a fine year old Clyde stallion. The society now possesses two stallions—one a Norman. Beauharnois county set this example, and Laprairie and Chambly have imitated it. The two last stallions of Laprairie and Chambly were bought on credit; \$1,000 this fall and \$1,500 in November, 1874, without interest. Being in possession of two fine horses, it may be supposed that the county of Chambly is, if not opposed, at least indifferent to the establishment of a National Stud, but we are still of opinion the stud is a desirable affair for the cultivators of the Province. I am convinced that a county which will take action in the establishment of a stud by lending its name on credit, would never be called upon to pay its subscription. The revenues from the stud, increased by the \$5,000, (over eight per cent. on the capital,) of the Government per annum for five years, assure the declaration of a good dividend, whilst the horses remain, representing more than the value of the capital."

An agricultural paper says strawberry beds may be protected from birds, by running a wire along the walk to which a cat is chained. Her movements up and down the length of the wire will keep the birds away. Where there is no chain, the wire can be run through the cat, and heated to a temperature that will fill the cat with a longing to keep moving,

## GARDEN WORK.

This is a busy and important month for the gardener. Every bed should now have something growing or sown in it. Not a weed or sprig of grass should be seen. It will keep you busy, but in the abundance of the products you will reap your reward.

*Cabbage Plants.*—Plant out some for early autumn use, Winninstadt, Drumhead Savoy, &c., and if the weather prove favorable you may plant out your winter's supply, the last of the month; it will not be too early, and perhaps when July comes you may not have seasons favorable. Let there be a full supply, for after all, cabbage is next to the potato as a main product for the table. Do not plant them where cabbages grew last year, or the year before, and be sure the ground is rich. Work them well, and use plaster freely on them. Seeds of the later kinds may now be sown.

*Melons and Vines.*—Thin them to two or three in a hill, keep the land light and clean. Dust often with soot, sulphur and plaster to drive off the bugs.

*Cucumbers.*—Plant a sufficiency for pickling and late use. Plant also the *Gherkin*. Treat them as recommended for melons.

*Onions.*—Keep these clean, and if they seem disposed to run to seed, break out the centre stem, or bend the tops down,

*Corn.*—Plant some corn for late use.

*Beets.*—Sow the long Blood Beet for winter use. They will be tender and nice.

*Parsnips and Carrots.*—Those growing keep clean and land stirred. It is not too late to sow more if you require it.

*Peas.*—Sow Marrow peas for fall use.

*Beans.*—Plant a few string beans for a succession.

*Radish.*—Sow at intervals the *White Spanish Large Turnip* or *Chinese Rose*.

*Cantaloupes.*—Sow a few hills to furnish mangoes for pickles.

*Tomatoes.*—Set out your main crop, and be sure, to have a large supply. You never can have too many of this wholesome and delicious vegetable.

*Strawberries.*—As soon as the crop is gone, work the beds, trim and thin the vines, and keep grass and runners down, except such vines as you wish to propagate from; these you can water, if a dry time, and fertilize with manure water, so as to force a supply of large young plants for the autumn or spring planting.

*Celery.*—Plant a few rows for early blanching.

*Lettuce.*—Plant out some Coss lettuce.

*Endive.*—Sow the seeds of this nice salad.

*Spinach.*—Sow a few rows. It comes in nicely between early and late cabbage.

*Asparagus Beds.*—Keep these clean, and let the asparagus grow, but do not let it bear seed, unless you have a reason for so doing.

*Salads of all sorts* may now be sown.

*Herbs—Sweet and Medicinal.*—May be transplanted from the beds, to where they are to grow, if the plants are large enough. They will be in bloom, and yield a fine supply by October.

*Horse radish.*—May yet be planted. Let the ground be deeply spaded and rich, if you want a stout root, that is free from strings, and has, an agreeable taste.

*Turnips.*—Sow a small bed of these for early use. They are so nice for vegetable soups, and to eat with corned beef.

*Peppers.*—Plant these in good soil, keep the land light, and give them plenty of water, if you desire large ones for pickling, and to make mangoes.

*Egg Plants.*—These should be kept clean, and watered in dry weather.

*Okra.*—Keep it well worked.

*Beans for Winter.*—Drill a patch of *Black Mexican* beans, or *Turtle Soup* beans, as they are called, because they make a delicious soup, nearly equal to, and somewhat of the flavor of turtle soup.

*Orchards.*—Trim trees. Check the growth of peach trees if necessary by pinching off the terminal buds. The same with dwarf trees; also do the same to grapes, and then the leaves. Plums and peaches should be carefully thinned, if the fruit be still too thick. Better have too little than too much fruit on young trees, and indeed on old ones, but with them it does not matter so much.

PEA BUGS.—A correspondent in the *Country Gentleman* says:

As to how that bug may be destroyed, I only have to say that a few years ago we had them to contend with very much, in my neighborhood, as they destroyed nearly all the peas; but the farmers soon found a remedy that answered the purpose. As soon as the peas are threshed, clean them and put them in a heap on the barn floor, about a foot thick; and sprinkle them (about a quart to five or six bushels) with spirits of turpentine. Then stir them well several times until you think they have all been well mixed. Let them lie a few days to dry; then barrel them, and I think you will never see many bugs.

THE most convenient way to prepare a rolling place for fowls is to lay a rough floor of old boards on the ground, fasten boards a foot high all around the sides, and fill the apartment with 10 or 20 bushels of sand and ashes. The sand should be protected from rain, as fowls cannot roll in damp sand.

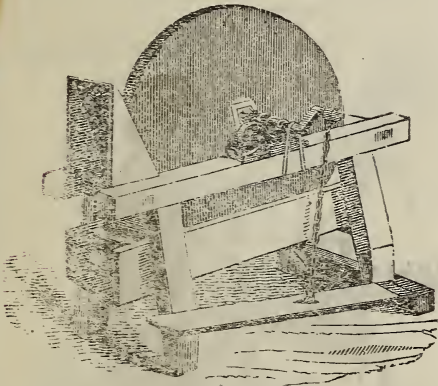


## FARM IMPLEMENTS AND LABOR-SAVING MACHINERY.

The progress of agriculture is no where more glaringly developed than in the advance which has been made by the genius and skill of mechanics in inventing and rendering practical, useful implements and machinery for farm purposes. Many of these are new and unknown to the great body of working farmers, especially to the young men commencing agricultural pursuits. We therefore think it not amiss to enumerate some that ought to be on every farm. The more costly ones ought for economy to be owned by a company of neighbors, or by one man, to be hired out by him to a certain number of persons in the neighborhood. It will be less expense to each one, among the possessors of small farms, and be remunerative to the owner of such machines, as Reapers, Mowers, Threshers, and Mills for grinding and sawing.

Beside the common hoes, axes, spades, and such usual and necessary articles on a farm, there should be that very important, yet on no farm used often enough,

GRINDSTONE,



Of the improved style, by which one man can turn the stone and sharpen the instrument, and save the help of another man who was formerly required to turn when the stone mounted the old way.—With sharp tools much more work can be done with less labor.

PUMPS.

Where these are required, it will be found that the *Cucumber Pump* is cheap, durable, easily set in the well, not liable to get out of order, and suitable to all depths, from 5 feet to 100 feet. It is the most popular pump in use, wherever it has been introduced. The demand for them fully equals the supply. Another much used and highly recommended is the *Temple Iron, Porcelain-Lined Cylinder Wood Pump*.

For a perfect drill, or one approaching perfection, we commend

"FARMER'S FAVORITE,"

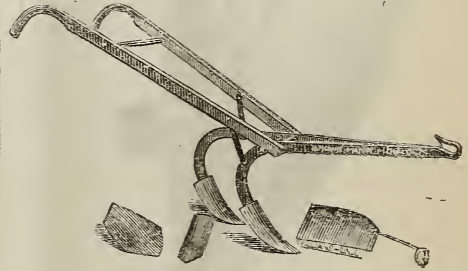


Which has been described and illustrated time and again in the columns of the *Maryland Farmer*.

CULTIVATORS.

It is well enough to have one or two of the old sort, five tooth-expanding cultivators, but for corn and tobacco they have been nearly superseded by the

"IRON BEAM DOUBLE SHOVEL PLOW,"

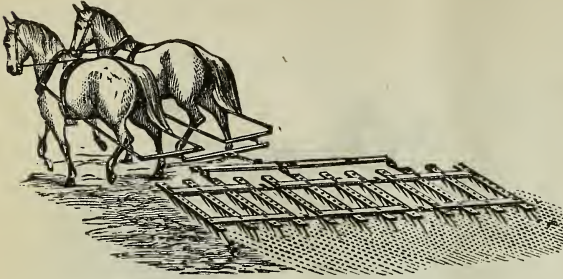


Which is esteemed the best implement for working corn ever invented.

It is all wrought iron, light of draught, weighing only forty pounds. Suits all soils, and an excellent seed plow for small grain. It is a good implement for tobacco and roots, as it can be used with a bull tongue or a mould-board. The bull tongue is used when the plants are small, as it stirs deep and throws but little dirt. The mould-board shovel is used for hilling corn, and last working of potatoes, tobacco, &c. Whitman's Catalogue says also,

"By the use of these extra shovels, our Plow does the work of the Cultivator, Double Shovel and small Hilling or Turning Plow, completely cultivating the plant at all ages of growth. These shovels are all fitted to the same stock, and are easily removed. The shovels are all of best German Steel. This plow is provided with a shield or clod-fender if customers order them, as the Bull Tongue, Mould-board and Clod-fender are extra. The clod-fender is for shielding the corn or plants when small, preventing it from being covered or damaged by clods or dirt, and saves the labor of one hand when the plant is small. We could furnish the certificates of thousands of leading farmers and dealers as to the superiority of this Plow, but prefer it should stand on its own merits."

## THOMAS' SMOOTHING HARROW,



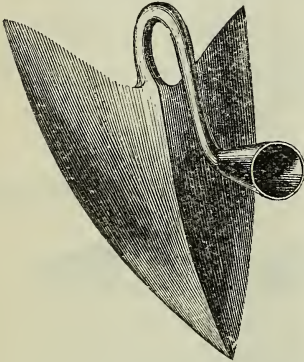
of hundreds of gentlemen of unimpeachable veracity. It is a great labor-saving implement.

## PLOW.

*White's Iron Plows* of all sizes and the old *Minor & Horton* are our favorites. There is yet great room for improvement in plows. None are without their material faults.

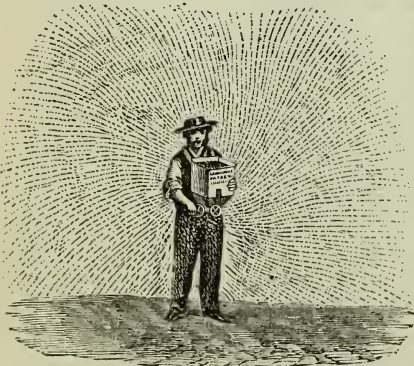
We have a newly invented

"WARREN" HAND HOE,



Which is highly recommended, and from its form one can readily see how well calculated it is to do rapid and efficient work in practical hands.

CAHOON'S PATENT BROADCAST SEED SOWER,



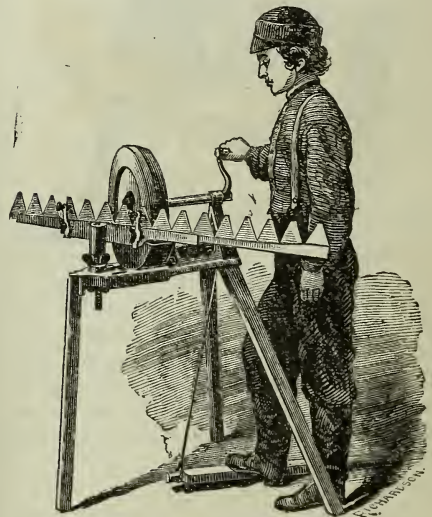
Is excellent for sowing grass seed with dispatch and regularity.

Of which much has been said in our journal of late, is a great improvement on harrows intended to smooth the ground, and destroy the young weeds and grass. We have heard not a complaint against it, while thousands praise it. It is comparatively a new invention, yet its sale has been immense.—Some of its performances seem to the uninitiated almost miraculous, such for instance as running over corn almost a foot high, working the land, destroying grass, yet leaving the corn uninjured. Yet so it is, if we take the statements

## MONTGOMERY'S REVOLVING SCREEN.

This has been lately introduced for making seed wheat, by thoroughly cleaning it of all impurities, and getting rid of small, shriveled grains, leaving only the pure, large grains for seed. Its general use would no doubt greatly improve the market value of the wheat crop, as that grain would by this process annually improve instead of deteriorating. We think it would pay a farmer to pass his entire crop of wheat through this machine before sending it to market, making two assortments of the crop, prime and second quality. At least it would be worth the experiment.

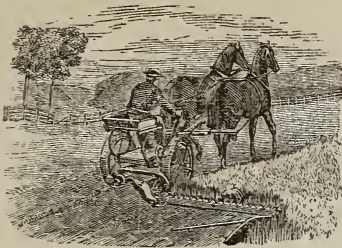
STEVENSON'S MOWER & REAPER KNIFE SHARPENER,



Is a labor-saving machine very desirable for all who own or use such machines as reapers or mowers. The ordinary grindstone is not near so convenient or safe for sharpening these knives, which ought to be kept bright and sharp to do good work.



## REAPERS AND MOWERS.



Of these there are so many, and each has its ardent friends, and public opinion is so divided as to which is best, that we decline to express a preference, advising those who mean to purchase to act cautiously and look at the different ones, learn all they can, and then decide for themselves—one can hardly go far amiss. They all are more or less valuable. The mower is particularly the grand machine for the farmer. What oceans of sweat it has saved the laboring men! What sums of money in the increased value of the hay, by the rapidity with which it can be cut, so as to be secured free from rains!

## THE SULKY HAY RAKE



Is a great invention. It is indispensable, and what a God-send to the lazy, the feeble, or to the old farmer! It does its work far quicker, and much more effectually than even the hand rake. It pays its cost double each season that it is used on ten or twenty acres of land, by the extra amount of hay saved by it, and in the time saved. It is a capital gleaner of the grain fields also. No one who makes hay or grain can afford to be without it.

## THE MARYLAND CORN COVERER

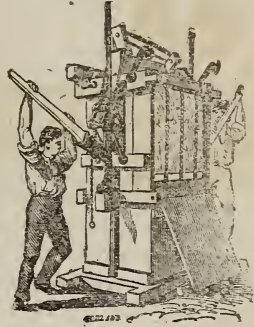
Is a simple, cheap, useful implement, that covers the corn better than the hand hoe, and saves time and labor.

## E. WHITMAN &amp; SONS' DOUBLE SPOUT CORN SHELLER

Is equal to, if not the best in the market, for small and medium size farms.

On all farms where hay is designed as a crop for market, there ought to be a hay press, and we recommend

## INGERSOLL'S HAY PRESS.



## CIDER AND WINE MILLS.

There is no trouble to make wine and cider now that we can get *Hickok's Keystone Mill* and *Hutchinson's Family Cider and Wine Mill*.

The last supplies the want of those who make cider and wine in the small way, or who have but little fruit at a time. It is portable, and convenient to make a gallon or so only at a time, as cider or wine may be needed, or as the different fruits and berries ripen.

## SEYMOUR'S IMPROVED PLASTER SOWER.

Those who use lime, plaster, bone dust, ashes, &c., extensively would be benefited by getting Seymour's Improved Plaster Sower.

There is one noticeable fact about the late improvements in agricultural machinery, which shows in every particular how closely the inventors look to the saving of *labor* not only, but the ease, comfort and absolute recreation and pleasure of man. Many of them enable boys, women, old or feeble men, even cripples, to perform the work that formerly required able bodied men. We have for instance the reaper and mower, with the driver of the team seated—the driver is comfortably seated in sulky style over the hay rake, tedder, roller and Thomas' Smoothing Harrow; we have also, wheel gang plows and cultivators, on which the plowman is seated, and directs the working of the machine. These comforts would seem to pander to laziness, but they bring into the field of labor scores of persons who answer every purpose with these helping appliances, and who were hitherto drones on the farm, because their physical disabilities excluded them from such labor. Thus hard labor by strong limbs has become agreeable employment for the weak and feeble. Here we have an immense gain—in the power given us to multiply our laborers at busy times, and convert the drones of our domestic hive into busy, active, efficient laborers.

*For the Maryland Farmer.*

A VARIETY OF STATEMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS ALL IMPORTANT TO  
THE FARMER.

NUMBER SEVEN.

Dear rural reader, pursuant to my promise in the conclusion of my last, I am now to "show up," or ventilate the system of farming that has proved so distasteful to so many youths, that they have deserted it with feelings of dislike, that a lifetime can never obliterate, and I am to describe a system that will so attach the sons of farmers to the farm, that few will leave it for more delightful or congenial employment. Before I attempt to describe the system that is to be substituted for the defective one, I must ask your indulgence, whilst I more minutely describe what exists in the latter, that so imperatively demands reform and reconstruction.

It will be remembered that I only mentioned one of the numerous cases that have resulted in depopulating the country and crowding the city, (viz:) the excessive, uninteresting and unremunerative labor required of the boy.

To the reflecting and intelligent—to those who have studied human nature, and particularly to those who have experience in farm labor as generally conducted, I need not add anything to the single example of discouragement already presented, for they are ready to grant that that alone is sufficient to effect what I have claimed for it—but I trust it will be profitable to my readers, both to fathers and their sons, what I have to state, which will not be a statement of untried theories, but a record of experiences, and deductions therefrom.

HOW A "WELL TO DO" FARMER, WELL KNOWN TO THE WRITER, MANAGED WITH HIS THREE SONS.

The boys, as they each arrived at the age of 6 or 7 years, were required to go alone to a distant pasture, a half mile or more from the house, after dark, to turn to pasture a large dairy of cows, after having walked all day, (not a ten-hour day, but often one of 11 to 13 hours,) by the side of a four or six ox team, used in ploughing heavy clay land; and after having milked three to four cows, night and morning, seven days in the week. In short days, in late autumn, I have known one of these little slaves, much worse slaves than any colored ones that I have ever known, to be out with his "chores" a full hour after dark, and the next morning he was "hauled out of bed" before daylight, and sent away for the cows, with bare feet, when the ground was covered with frost, and the little fellows have told me that they have many a time driven up the lying cow, and warmed their aching

feet on the ground which extracted the animal heat from the cow to that degree that it was a very comfortable temperature. These boys, each as they grew older, were required to perform throughout fully nine months of every year, every variety of the heavy labor of a very rough farm of 200 acres, on which the system of cropping was as varied as the soil, climate and markets would warrant.

They often performed a man's work at the age of 12 to 14 years, and I have even known them to do what a hired laborer would not do, (viz:) after husking corn all day, in very cold, uncomfortable weather, they were required to drive a team with a load of buckwheat to a mill five miles distant, after dark, and were then required to be out by dawn the next morning. They were rarely allowed a holiday, they had no books or papers, save an apology for a county weekly, and a few common school books; and if they had, they had no time for reading, for with the large stock of cows, horses, sheep, swine and poultry to be fed, and all other work appertaining required, in addition to that pertaining to the variety of crops produced, the working week exceeded seven 11-hour days. They had no sports, except to play ball and tops a short time on Sunday, to ride a horse to and from the field, and to carry two large baskets of maple sap at a time nearly a half mile, and sit up until eleven o'clock at night to attend the fire for boiling it to sugar.

THE IMMENSITY OF LABOR ON A LARGE FARM UNDER  
A VARIED OR MIXED SYSTEM OF HUSBANDRY,

Cannot be realized except by those who have participated in it. There is not a day, nor an hour, from the beginning to close of the year, that pressing work is not constantly demanding increased exertion. Scarcely any branch of the great variety of work can be deferred without loss; hence, the mind of the proprietor, and the muscle of every man, woman, child and beast of labor on such a farm are constantly taxed to the fullest capacity. It is not so with the farm devoted to the production of our principal crop; then there are generally two or three periods of greater or less duration, of urgent, pressing work, which if neglected will eventuate in severe loss; but then there are intermediate periods at which of course there is always plenty that should be done, but it may be deferred with less immediate loss than would attend the omission of feeding and milking the dairy regularly; or the sheep shearing until the wool is shed and wasted on the bushes; or neglecting the ewes in the lambing season; or the preparation of the ground, and planting the variety of crops respectively, in due season; and harvesting each at the



"nick of time," and with the least possible waste, together with the thousand and one of the manifold matters pertaining to the mixed system of farm management.

In districts of our country in which the mixed system prevailed extensively ten years since, specialties have been adopted to the exclusion of the variety, and sometimes with great pecuniary advantage, e. g., portions of central and western New York, and other districts, have made a specialty of the *dairy*, and cheese-making by the factory system, and have maintained, and in instances, greatly increased the fertility of the land, and at the same time they have realized very much greater profit than they did under the old system. In others, again, eligibly situated for the mixed system, it has been substituted for the special or single crop system. In the main, however, the mixed system has, under circumstances favorable to it, proved the safer of the two; but it has its peculiar slavishness in conducting it that the foregoing is designed to impress. Mark the effect of this system, under which the three brothers were drilled, by a farmer who succeeded in making \$85,000 on a two hundred acre farm, (and a very rugged one at that,) in a period of forty-two years; but he so thoroughly disgusted his three sons with farming, as they had been compelled to farm, that they all resorted to other business, and all succeeded.

The example that I have related of the course of a successful farmer, (in the common acceptance of the word success,) and its effects on his three sons, was enacted some forty years since, though one of the brothers still survives. I have had a less definite knowledge of a large number of cases of similar management, with similar results, and I can call to mind many in progress to-day.

#### A WANT OF CAPITAL IN FARMING

Has perhaps been a more formidable barrier to rapid success in the acquisition of wealth in the pursuit, and in interesting and holding the young men of the farm in the vocation as they reach the age that they embark for themselves, than any other.

#### THE VERY GREAT WANT OF SAGACITY IN INVESTING CAPITAL IN LAND

Is presented in almost every district, and in very numerous instances.

The error so common, to which I allude, is that of purchasing too large an area, and making too large a first payment on the land, instead of retaining a large portion of the cash capital for use in stocking, in fertilizing, in necessary improvements generally—and to have some ready money always in hand, with which to meet current expenses of

the farm, and not be obliged to throw into a bad market, stock or produce, to be sold at a sacrifice; but to be able to take advantage of the misfortunes of those whose condition I have pointed out, when they are at the mercy of the purchaser, (which mercy is very easily weighed or measured when we have once found it,) which has been the ruin of many an industrious, honest man, who committed the great error that I have denounced.

The large area, generally of unproductive land that has been bought on time, and too large a debt incurred, on which the purchaser is obliged to pay interest and taxes, besides keeping the land enclosed, is constantly oppressing him with increasing and fatal embarrassment.

In such a horrid condition, he embarks in production, determined, notwithstanding the discouragements, to live and pay the heavy debt. To accomplish this, no member of the family must use or consume the value of one cent that can be avoided; the same rigid economy must be pursued towards every brute on the farm, and the farm, too, must be put under short allowance, the soil must not be fed or fertilized, beyond inexpensive home resources, until the debt is paid; no help must be hired, in doors or out, but all the work that can be done, must be done by every member of the family. All that I have stated, that befel the three brothers, and if possible, still more oppressive bondage awaits the children of the farmer who embarks in farming as I have indicated. The horrors, the severe servitude and privations, that awaits the farmer's boy under such circumstances, I am sure the reader will admit is sufficient to create a dislike for all that pertains to the farm, and beget in his mind a determination to *do anything but farm*.

That such a result is inevitable thousands of instances that have occurred incontrovertibly attest.

#### HOW SHALL SUCH A RESULT BE AVOIDED.

No one should purchase land that will involve him in a heavy debt.

No one should purchase land because it is cheap, or low priced, unless he has the means to pay for it without embarrassing himself in his business.

It is better for one with limited means to lease a farm on shares, than to agree to pay a cash rent, or to purchase: for there is great uncertainty in the cropping of land, especially in the annual returns.

The income from a farm for a series of years, say five or ten, may prove remunerative, and even profitable; but under a heavy debt, the failure in crops, low prices, casualties, sickness of man or beast, &c., for a single year may be ruinous.

If practicable, it would be far more judicious,



and less risky, for the man of small means, to continue as a hired laborer, with some man of capital, until he has acquired a sufficiency with which to embark safely as a tenant, with a refusal of the farm at a fixed price, which may be affected in most good farming districts of the older States.

This course would avoid the dire consequences that I have endeavored truthfully to portray. I must crave the indulgence of the reader, and ask his pardon for deferring to another month, for want of space, a description of the course that I shall recommend as most effective in rearing a farmer's son in a manner that will attach him to the farm and give him true delight in the pursuit.

J. WILKINSON,  
*Rural Architect, Landscape Gardener, and*  
*Consulting Agriculturist, Baltimore.*  
[TO BE CONTINUED.]

*For the Maryland Farmer.*

#### TO YOUNG FARMERS.—No. XVI.

##### THE RIGHT WAY ALWAYS THE BEST.

My young friends, we have now travelled some time together, pretty much in theory; let us, for the present, be a little more practical. Some farmers are inclined to be shiftless or neglectful, doing things by the halves, always saying, "it will do for this time," and only succeeding by the halves.

Now, this was not the way with Thomas Thrifty; he always did everything thoroughly and right; and the result was, he generally succeeded, and never had to complain of "bad luck," like his neighbor Shiftless, who was constantly bemoaning his bad luck. Both formed a *strong habit*, of action—one, of thoroughness; the other, of "it will do;" this habit is a wonderfully powerful agency; get into the habit of doing every thing right, and it becomes easy and effective; or, form the habit of being neglectful, and it is hard to get out of that rut or tract.

Take good care of stock; feed them well and uniformly, in well sheltered places, and not negligently, with the lazy man's phrase—"it will do"—and you will prosper, and have peace.

Take good care of your tools, and not leave them in the field and storm, where the wood-work will rot, and the iron rust; Mr. Shiftless left his plow and harrow in the fields where he last used them, and always lost time, when in the greatest hurry, in going after them. But Mr. Thrifty always put them in a safe place, when done with them; and consequently, knew where to find them, in good order, when wanted, at short notice.

Take care of fences and gates, and not leave

them down or open, to some more convenient season, till cattle and hogs go through, and do more mischief, than ten times the cost of repairing fences in the right time, or shutting the gate.

Take care of crops, cleaning out weeds and brushes, stones and stumps, before you break your tools, and lose your temper. Thrifty always picked them up, and took them out of the fields, when hauling them the first time, and placed them along the line of fence, not piling them up in the field to bother the plow and harvest, every season, by which much time of man and team would be constantly lost; the brush and roots were burnt, and not left to break tools and waste the crop, at every harvest—and he found the right way was the best.

But Shiftless just rolled the stump, or stone, or log, out of the way, each time, hauling them over and over, every season; losing ten times more valuable time than would be required to put them completely out of the way in the start; besides often breaking his implements, wasting his grain, and getting in a swearing fever; proving the wrong way to be the most costly in the end.

The same with regard to seed; one always selected the best seed—prepared it in the best manner, by brining and cleaning of all weeds, foul stuff and imperfect kernels; then rolled it in ashes, or lime, or guano, so as to dry it for sowing or for the drill; his crops always came up evenly, and in season, and then grew on rapidly and with luxuriance; and thus he had seldom cause to complain of bad seasons and insects; but the other took his seed, hap hazard, but badly cleaned, saying, "it would do this time," it was slow in coming up, full of weeds, and grew very unevenly; and he scolded the season and his bad luck.

Turn as we will, and do as we may, the "right way is the best"—in field or orchard.

And particularly in plowing and dragging.—Thrifty leaves no gaps and balks, but does clean, smooth work, and has no blank spots at the harvest. But the crops of Shiftless are mottled and full of naked spots, as the back of a scald hog. He is confused to see why his neighbor always has such good crops on land no better than his own—Thrifty sees it, though.

##### LAND MARK.

**CABBAGE WORMS.**—Put ten cents worth of copotas into a sprinkling pot; put on warm water; let it stand till cold, and sprinkle the cabbage at night before the dew falls. This will do for 100 or 150 heads. Sprinkle the same as you would a floor to lay the dust. The dew at night will wash off the sprinkling water. Sprinkle the cabbage twice or three times a week. Mr. Soudard raised a hundred in this way last year, and I have eaten some of his cabbage, which was nice.—*Cor. Country Gentleman.*

Translated from the French.

## WHEN TO CUT GRAIN.

### RELATIVE VALUE OF HAY AND STRAW.

BY OUR OWN TRANSLATOR.

"It is more and more demonstrated by the experience of the farm and the bake-shop, that the best time to cut grain is when the straw begins to turn yellow.

"It is established that when the stalk begins to turn yellow, the plant receives no more sap from the earth, and that the formation of the flow is finished in the grain by the action alone of the air and the heat.

"It has been equally well proved that the grain in process of ripening becomes more full, sheltered from the heats of the sun, in the interior of a shock for instance, than stretched in the swath; because in the latter case the heat dries the grain to excess, diminishing at the same time its quality, its weight and its volume.

"The most rational system therefore for harvesting grain is,

"1. To cut the straw at the moment it begins to grow yellow.

"2. To put the swath immediately into sheaves, which should be gathered into pyramid-like groups called shocks, without delay.

"Each shock is formed by five or six sheaves placed standing a little inclined, and in a round form, to give solidity to the structure. The ears gathered into a centre are then capped with a reversed sheaf, unless they can be covered, as we have seen it done in Auvergne, with small cowls or hoods of straw, prepared beforehand for that purpose, a practice which notably facilitates the work. The ears thus sheltered from the excessive heat, the rain and the dew, ripen slowly and furnish large grains, smooth and of good quality. Another advantage of this method is that the grain is secured; the farmer is not hurried to remove it; he can leave it in the shock without inconvenience until after the labors of the harvest.

"This is an important point at a period when, for want of force, there are always jobs in waiting, even among the best directed transactions."—*Gazette des Campagnes*.

### REMARKS BY TRANSLATOR.

The practice suggested in the latter part of the above remarks is one which has been long followed in our section, but it is not usual to cut as soon as recommended in the beginning. "Cut as soon as the grain is out of the milk and in the dough," is the rule most frequently uttered here, and the grain will be in the milk sometime after the straw has began to grow yellow at the bottom. It is desirable to know the earliest possible moment at which grain can be safely cut, but few farmers are provided with the necessary apparatus, and few farmers have the necessary time to test the matter. It would be necessary to cut the grain at different stages of the ripening process, and compare them—by weight, appearance and analysis—with one another. We

are aware that experiments have demonstrated the advantages of very early cutting, to both the farmer and the miller, the early cut grain making more and better flour than the ripe grain, but we are not aware that it is safe to cut as soon as the straw turns yellow, although if this can safely be done it will prove of immense advantage to all concerned in the growth of cereals, and who is not?

The farmer will be enabled to begin his harvest earlier, without the loss which now follows, particularly in large harvests, from the over-ripening and shattering out of grain.

In our present wheat field the rank growth of the oats from the shattered grains threatened in some places to outgrow and smother the wheat, although the field was harrowed half a dozen times, rolled and drilled. We delayed harvesting the oats, fearful of cutting too soon, and before the work was done, some of the oats were far too ripe; the whole field was pretty well seeded anew, and taking strong hold in the good ground, they went too deep for a harrow tooth to remove them. Wheat fields have sometimes been ruined by the obtruding oats.

Again—the straw is becoming more and more valuable as our system of farming advances from the primitive to the more careful stage, and the earlier the straw is cut the more nutrition it affords. Formerly the straw was set on fire, or allowed to rot down uncared for, while the farmer tilled the field by ploughing around what he no doubt considered a troublesome obstruction; but we have changed all that, and the seasons, by cutting off our hay crops, have assisted us in the change. Let us glance here at the relative value of straw and clover and timothy hay for feed, as determined by analysis:

Timothy hay contains in every one hundred pounds, 14 of water—the hygroscopic water of vegetation is alluded to—23 of crude fibre, about 37 pounds of matter which is not nutritious.

Clover hay contains in every one hundred pounds, 16 of water, 35 of crude fibre, (wood,)—51 pounds of non-nutritious matter.

Wheat straw in every one hundred pounds has 14 of water, 48 of fibre—62 pounds of non-nutritious matter; the clover hay contains 11 pounds less, and timothy hay 25 pounds less of non-nutritious matter to the 100 pounds than wheat straw. Oat straw contains 14 pounds of water, 40 of fibre in every hundred pounds—54 pounds of non-nutritious matter; eight pounds less than wheat straw.

The above table is a statement of the relative proportions of the waste materials, laying aside their value as mechanical agents in the animal



economy; we give now a table of the relative value for feed of the articles named.

In each one hundred pounds there are in timothy hay 10 pounds of albuminoids or nitrogenous matter, (a component of the muscular tissues, tendons and nerves,) 46 of carbohydrates, (which include fat, digestible cellulose or woody fibre starch, gum, sugar, &c.) 3 of fat; the total of nutritious matter is 63 pounds.

In clover hay (one hundred pounds) there are 13 pounds of nitrogenous matter; 30 of carbohydrates; 3 of fat; the amount of nutritious matter is 49 lbs.

In wheat straw (one hundred pounds) there are 2 pounds of albuminoids; 30 of carbohydrates; 1½ of fat or 38 pounds of nutritious matter.

In oat straw (one hundred pounds) there are 2½ pounds albuminoids; 38 of carbohydrates; 2 of fat or 46 pounds of nutritious matter. In the order of their nutritive value they stand timothy 63, clover 49, oat straw 46, wheat straw 38. By multiplying these totals by 20, the amount per ton may be found. Every farmer knows that if grass is allowed to stand after a certain stage of growth, it becomes more and more woody, and hence less and less nutritious, and the same process is in operation in straw. Clover cut when in full blossom yielded 14 pounds of albuminoids, 30 of carbohydrates, 36 of crude fibre, over 3 of fat per one hundred pounds; but when cut ripe the nutritious matter had seriously diminished; the albuminoids falling to 10, the carbohydrates to 20, and the innutritious, indigestible fibre had increased from 36 to 48 pounds, and the fat decreased to 2 pounds per one hundred; hence a ton of clover hay cut in full blossom would contain 80 pounds more of albuminoids, and 200 pounds more of carbohydrates, (the fat would be 20 pounds more,) per ton than when cut ripe. A ton of clover hay cut ripe would contain 240 pounds more of crude fibre than when cut in full blossom.

We have endeavored to show the necessity of early cutting by the teachings of chemistry, and know also, by our own practice, that grain can be cut much earlier than is usually supposed or generally practiced: we have cut rye that was quite green in the straw, and wheat that old farmers agreed would seriously shrivel, but no perceptible loss occurred; but in this very early cutting, one danger to both grain and straw must not be underestimated: if cut early, and shocked as usual, care must be taken to cure the straw to prevent heating and molding in the shock, and also to avert the spoiling and decay which might ensue should rainy weather follow the harvest.

The above tables and remarks would be incomplete without an approximation to the relative currency value of the four articles based on analysis.

Placing clover hay at \$15 per ton, timothy is worth \$10, wheat straw \$11, and oat straw \$13 per ton; figures which sufficiently indicate the value of straw to induce us to make the best use of it.

## FEEDING COLTS.

A correspondent of the *Maine Farmer* thus gives his practice:

I give colts as many oats as they can at once eat up clean, feeding three times a day. They manage to take good care of about the following quantities in a day:

	lbs. oats.	lbs. hay.
Weanling .....	4	8
Yearlings .....	5	10
2 year olds .....	6	10
3 year olds .....	8	10

Once a week they receive a warm mash, of bran and oats, and once a week they also have three or four pounds of potatoes; each in lieu of a usual feed. They would get other roots—preferably carrots—if I had them. Of course these quantities vary slightly, with the animals, but they show the average feed. My farmer neighbors look at my colts, and wonder at their size, power, and spirit, when there is no cause for wonder, at all. They not only have warm, clean, and ample boxes to move about in, but they are carded and exercised every day. To this end the youngsters are daily compelled to half-an-hour's gallop in a large yard, while the two and three year olds receive regular work upon the road.

They are all handled from their birth. It may be objected that the farmer cannot afford to feed so highly. I reply that he cannot afford to do otherwise. He does not keep his growing boy upon a short allowance, but on the contrary, is in a state of chronic astonishment to see the quantity of provender the urchin can stow away under his jacket. We all know that children eat more than "grown" people. Why should not the same truth hold good with other animals?

I have not attempted to give any physiological reasons for this system, although they are many.—A common belief obtains that colts are often spoiled by graining too much. Indeed I have been advised by well meaning friends to that effect. I would rather have my own experience, however, than anybody's advice. That experience tells me that extra colts may be raised with extra care. If I fastened a yearling in a box or a stall, and kept him without exercise all winter, I should expect his legs to fill and "stock;" but I should attribute the disease to its proper cause, and not to the oats. In conclusion I would say, that at intervals we give sheaf oats, in lieu of hay; and during very cold weather, an occasional feed of corn meal.

DWARF PEARS sometimes succeed finely at the west. A correspondent of the *Agriculturist* describes an orchard of 300 trees, 10 years old, which bears annually "splendid" crops, in Lincoln County, Ky.



## POTATO CULTURE—EXPERIMENTS— SAVING POTATOES.

*To the Editors of the Maryland Farmer :*

As many of your readers will plant their late potatoes after the receipt of your June number, one of the best crops in our section was planted about the middle of July, when the drouth was so severe on vegetation, and the land appeared too dry to allow germination. I will give the result of an experiment of mine to ascertain the relative merits of different modes of planting. I plowed the land deep in spring of 1872, it was corn stubble land of the previous year's crop—and ran a long, sharp single shovel in each row twice to get a furrow as deep as that implement would make it. The rows were about three feet apart; considering the irregularity with which potatoes spring up in the rows, some in the middle through the ridge and some on the sides, and the necessity of good culture and *house* culture in these times of dear labor, I think three feet about the right distance apart for potato rows. The potatoes—planting size—were cut once, rolled in plaster and dropped on the bottom of the furrow about ten inches apart. I sort the potatoes in the fall before storing for the winter into three sizes: No. 1, large sale and eating potatoes; No. 2, planting; No. 3, smallest which are boiled and made into slop, (with meal or bran and water) for pigs.

There were twenty-two rows in all. In seventeen rows the potatoes were planted first, a compost (of super-phosphate, animal matter, potash, salts, plaster, ashes, hen-manure, earth closet manure and dirt,) strewn along the furrow at the rate of 1,500 pounds per acre, and on top of them in the row we put stable manure, (horse and cow,) at the rate of 25 two horse loads per acre, and covered by running a one-horse mold board plow up one side and down the other of each row.

On the remaining five rows we put the manure in the bottom of the furrow *first*, then the fertilizer and potato—same quantities—on *top* of the manure. The variety was the Early Rose.

Now for the result, which I copy from page 380, of my farm ledger. The seventeen rows in which the potato was placed in the bottom of the furrow produced one bushel per row.

The five rows in which the potato was on top produced one half bushel per row, of same length. The season was a very dry one, as your Maryland readers will remember with sorrow, the great difference in yield would no doubt have been modified by the wet weather, but while some seasons are wet, I think the best results will usually follow preparation for drouths. Permit me a word in re-

gard to potato culture. It is an age, in which the teachers of agriculture insist upon *general* culture; if we wish to plant an orchard, we are told to plow and subsoil and underdrain the whole land; if we desire to plant a field in corn or wheat or oats, we are told to prepare and enrich the whole field equally; all this is well if you have the capital and can wait for results, but if you want potatoes—as I am on the potato, I do not feel at liberty to give an opinion about *special* culture in other crops—the same year in which you plant them, put all your manure in the row with the potato, and let the rest of the land take care of its self and wait its turn.

I will give you my plan of taking care of potatoes and close. Level off a piece of ground as large as necessary, and put two inch layer of packed straw at the bottom, or the straw may be omitted; I have done both. Put your potatoes down and on them a two or three inch layer of packed straw, then cover with six or eight inches of dirt and before cold freezing weather sets in put another layer of straw and eight or ten inches of earth, and then stand up fodder closely all around it and confine it by sticks or rail laid on it; the fodder may be fed in the spring. This plan is only a substitute for a well built, frost proof—I would like to say rat proof—root house. A cellar under the house should not be used as a root cellar unless constant care is exercised in the prompt removal of all decomposing matter, and where large quantities of apples, potatoes, beets, carrots and turnips are stored under the house, it is exceedingly difficult to detect the first indication of decay and remove it. I have in mind a case of the prostration of almost an entire family, sickness in every room in the house and finally the death of the flower of the family which the physician attributed to decaying matter under the house, and this was a large house of a gentleman of wealth; that the practice is common among all classes, I am aware and not always attended by such serious consequences, but difficulties which might follow may be easily and cheaply averted by burying out doors the bulk of the crop or digging a special cellar for roots. Before storing for the winter, either in cellar or mound, it is best to place them in a dark dry place like a barn floor, for a few weeks after digging and when thoroughly dry and before danger of freezing, they should be sorted carefully into different sizes—this work is more profitably done in the fall, say on rainy days, than in the spring, besides leaving the potatoes ready for market whenever it is desirable to sell—and wherever put kept in a dark place to which no moisture can penetrate. The practice of mounding or covering potatoes with dirt or putting them in a hole or box in the ground, is very often accompanied with great loss, but I have been invariably successful whenever the above process was followed.

Yours truly,

JUDEX.

## HORTICULTURAL.

### HINTS ON FRUIT CULTURE.

HOW TO PLANT PEACH AND PEAR TREES—PEAR CULTURE CAN BE LARGELY AND PROFITABLY INCREASED.

The great mistake of fruit growers in setting an orchard of either peaches, apples or pears, is, they are anxious for too great a variety. Not knowing just what varieties are adapted to their soil and climate, they select from twenty to fifty different kinds, have a few of each, but not enough of any to make the sale an object; hence they pronounce fruit-growing a failure, no money in it. This is especially the case with peach and pear growing.—Six or eight varieties of the peach are much better for commercial growers than twenty. A succession of varieties known and approved in the locality is all that is needed. Never plant a peach tree more than one year from the bud. A peach tree planted in the fall will make a better growth next season than if planted in the spring, other things being equal.

Pears have been greatly neglected on this Peninsula. No extensive orchards have been planted. The few thousand trees that are to be found in acre and half acre orchards have proved so exceedingly remunerative, and have come into bearing so soon, that I find the attention of many fruit-growers is being turned to pears for market and for canning purposes. And I have no doubt but the pear interest in a few years will be as important as the peach. No section is better adapted to this delicious fruit. Any good corn land will grow the pear, and any land that will do well in peaches will do well in pears when well manured and properly cultivated.

Select but few varieties, and such as come in before or after peaches. No great, although a paying price, can be expected for pears that go into market when it is filled with peaches. Among the varieties that are known in Delaware to be steady bearers, good growers and not subject to blight, rotting at the core, or falling of the leaves prematurely, are, of the very early. E. Manning, Bloodgood, Buerre Gifford and Dagenne D'Ete; summer, or early fall, Bartlett, Dagenne, Barrock and Seckel; late fall, Buerre Clairgou and Duchess D'Angouleme; winter, Lawrence, Buerre D'Anjou, Vicar of Winkfield, Winter Nellis and Easter Buerre.

For six varieties ripening in succession from July 15th to the succeeding April, take either E. Manning or Buerre Gifford, Bartlett, Duchess, Buerre D'Anjou, Lawrence and Vicar of Winkfield. Lawrence and Bartlett only as standards,

From some of these varieties, pears, with good culture, may be expected the third year, with all by the fifth and sixth when two and three year old trees are planted.

If the land is not naturally dry, underdrain, or in lieu, throw up in squares, by deeply plowing in ten foot lands each way, forming squares with elevated centers ten feet apart. Make the holes large enough to set the tree without bending the roots, and as deep as the dead furrows, or down to near the water line of the soil. Set two or three year old standards 20 feet, and dwarfs 10 feet, each way, making three drops to one standard and manure in the 6 or 8 inches below the tree roots so as to invite the roots downward. Fill around the tree with surface soil pressed around the roots, leaving the ground two or three feet from the tree, rather ditching than crowning, mulched with leaves, straw or litter over which a little earth is thrown. Trees thus set will all live and make a good growth the first year, and come into early bearing often the second year from planting. I know of no orchards that are late in coming into bearing, that were planted, cultivated and pruned in a proper manner. Standard-Seckels even have borne the third year from planting. Dagenne D'Ete the second year, Bartlett Standard the fourth, Buerre D'Anjou and Duchess the fifth. The average price of pears for ten years past through the season has been over \$12 per bbl.; in New York often as high as \$20, and even \$30 per bbl., and never less than \$15. At such prices the masses cannot indulge in them. The acreage of pears should be greatly increased, so that they can be bought at lower rates and come into more general use. They are as easily raised as peaches, and more baskets obtainable from an acre. Arthur Colburn had a thousand baskets from less than an acre, which he sold in Philadelphia for \$2 a basket. Mr. Hersey, of Maryland, netted \$450 from three-fourths of an acre the fourth year. Such cases might be multiplied.—*From Every Evening, March 13th.*

AN EXCELLENT GRAFTING WAX.—The following recipe for making grafting wax comes to us from an experienced fruit-grower, and we give it to our readers with full confidence that it may be relied upon:

Two lbs. rosin, one lb. beeswax, one half lb. tallow, or in these proportions for larger or smaller quantities; if to be used in the open air, in cool weather, add a little more tallow; melt all together and manipulate well with the hands as it becomes cool; make up into small rolls and inclose in greased or oiled paper any surplus not wanted for immediate use, and put it away in a cellar or cool room.—*Ex.*



## PEACHES HERE AND IN ENGLAND.

The *Garden* publishes an account of a profitable peach-tree at Rochampton Park, and after giving the method of cultivation presents a tabular statement of the dates of ripening, produce, and sum realized for the fruit for the past eleven years.—This table we copy:

Date.	Fruit Ripe.	Produce.	Sum Realized.
1862.....	June 15.....	42½ doz.....	£42 10s. 0d.
1863.....	May 28.....	48½ ".....	48 10 0
1864.....	May 1.....	42½ ".....	67 00 0
1865.....	April 21.....	27½ ".....	65 00 0
1866.....	May 10.....	38½ ".....	50 00 0
1867.....	May 3.....	39½ ".....	49 17 0
1868.....	April 21.....	37½ ".....	50 00 0
1869.....	April 29.....	54 ".....	60 00 0
1870.....	May 3.....	5 ".....	6 00 0
1871.....	June 3.....	74 ".....	37 00 0
1872.....	May 1.....	64 ".....	53 11 6
Total.....	473½ doz.....		£529 11s. 6d.

The total produce of this tree in eleven years is in round numbers \$2,600, and the peaches brought on an average \$5.50 a dozen, and each year's product of the tree was not far from \$336. It is true that these peaches were grown and forced, but notwithstanding this the story of this tree has a lesson for our fruit-growers. Mr Robinson, the editor of *The Garden*, was here in the light of our fruit season, and when he stated that he had not seen a decent peach in the New York market, we were disposed to regard his remark as a bit of John Bullism. The next year we passed a week in the peach orchards of Delaware and Maryland, and were quite convinced that we had never seen a decent peach in the market. All peaches for market are picked just before they are ripe, and are expected to come into eating condition by the time they reach the consumer. The difference between a peach ripened upon the tree and one ripened in a basket, can only be appreciated by those who have tried both.

There is one thing well settled as far as the markets of our large cities are concerned—extra fruit will always bring an extra price. In evidence of this we have only to recall the Jucunda strawberries of the late Mr. Knox, which on account of their enormous size and fine appearance sold at several times the price of ordinary fruit. We do not expect that many of our people will go into the forcing of peaches, but we do believe that it will pay our fruit-growers to take more pains with their fruit. Instead of having their peach-trees so loaded that the branches trail upon the ground, they should be thinned—with a part of the crop at least—so as to get a smaller number of finely developed peaches, and then they should devise such a method of packing as will allow tree-ripened fruit to be sent to market. Boxes to contain a

single layer packed in cotton might accomplish this. At all events, we have no doubt that whoever tries the experiment of sending to the New York or other large market, extra peaches, will find his remuneration in extra prices.—*American Agriculturist*.

## FRUIT TREES ON THE ROAD.

To the Editors of the *Maryland Farmer*:

To those who are setting out orchards this spring, I wish to make a suggestion. That is, to set out a few fruit trees along the highway, *pro bono publico*. Who has not in riding upon a summer's day become so overcome with the heat and dust that he would hail as a God-send a bit of shade and a juicy apple? And how sore a temptation to the most scrupulous person at such a time is a well laden fruit tree just on the inside of the fence! There is too much selfishness about us Americans. Our roads are wide, and we own the fields we till. The sunshine and the rain are free gifts and to place a tree where their simple influence shall make it a blessing for time to come is but the work of a few moments. Why should we fear that the school-boy or teamster will get a few apples or peaches? Why not be glad. In Germany, choice trees make the highways, avenues of delight, and the wayfarer always respects the white bands that make certain trees "reserved." In Spain, oranges, grapes and figs are ever at hand to refresh the traveler, and he regards it a sacred duty to plant the seeds of the fruit he has eaten. Here the selfish proprietors see their trees broken down, their best fruit carried off at night, while their tempers are soured by enmity toward half their race. Would not things be changed if there were plenty of fruit along the roads? Our orchards would be safer I do not doubt, our fences last longer, our sleep be more peaceful, our avenues more beautiful, our lands more valuable, and our hearts more hospitable.—Brother farmers and fruit growers, join with me in planting fruit trees on the road.

HOLLYWOOD.

It is related that a New Hampshire minister recently portrayed the history of Jonah after the following style: "I seem to see Jonah passing along the road to Nineveh; I seem to see him entering the ticket office, buy his ticket and pay for it; I seem to see him walk upon the vessel; I seem to see them lift their anchor and the stately ship move gradually out upon the broad Atlantic."

A stone-cutter in Detroit keeps ready-made grave stones with the name — Smith cut thereon.

Better half a loaf than no bread.



## TOBACCO.

## PREPARING TOBACCO FOR MARKET.

From the Greensboro' Tobacco Leaf, we copy the following very sensible hints, which may prove of service to our tobacco growers :

We are glad to see that our farmers are paying more attention to curing and assorting tobacco, something much needed heretofore, as tobacco when taken to market will not bear assorting without entailing extra expense and great loss in weight in the way of scraps and trash. As it will break in handling, too much care cannot be taken in the assorting and ordering of tobacco. Different qualities need be in different orders. Wrappers of every description should be in a pliant, silky order, while fillers and all other descriptions should be in moderately soft order, so that it will not break in handling, and at the same time be soft enough to allow the leaf to be opened for inspection, without breaking, and also to be in safe order for packing, bulking or working. It is also greatly to the farmers' interest to have their tobacco uniform, and tied up as neat and well as they can. A bright bundle should be tied up with a bright leaf, while a dark bundle should be tied with a dark leaf.—We have noticed a great many lots of tobacco very badly mixed up, and wish to call the attention of the planters to the importance of having their tobacco properly assorted, and try, as best we can, to show them where they lose by this negligence. Tobacco properly assorted, should be of the same color, length and quality. The best mode of accomplishing this most important part is, when the tobacco comes in orders or case, what the farmer can strip and manage in a reasonable time, should be taken down, packed straight, covered and moderately weighted. After being in bulk a few days it will be ready for stripping, if the weather is not too cold or harsh. As fast as stripped it should be nicely straightened and put in bulk. The bulk should be covered at all times to keep out damp or dry air, either being injurious to tobacco. The barn door should not be opened unless on a warm day, with wind south or south-east.

Concerning the bulking of tobacco; bright tobacco of all grades should be packed straight and loose, so as not to bruise, mat, or break the leaves; dark, red, green tobacco should be run through the hand, squeezed and straightened well, then bulked close and weighted heavily. The virtue of squeezing and straightening is that it makes it show rich, waxy and glossy, and the warmth from handling causes a slight disposition to sweat, and a moderate fermentation takes place in a few days, which forces the oil of the leaf to its surface, making the tobacco look its best.

If intended for winter sale allow it to remain in bulk from one to three weeks, according to your necessities or the state of the weather and condition of the tobacco when bulked.

Tobacco before it heats, say a week or ten days, has a sweet, sickening smell, caused from soft or high order, and sometimes from neglect of not keeping bulks covered, as the damp air penetrates the bulk between the bundle heads, and damp air being heavy remains in the bulk, causing tobacco to heat and mould. (farmers are familiar with bulk

mould.) Before loading or packing tobacco it is greatly to the farmer's interest to have his parcels as large as possible, for this reason—the more pounds of a kind and quality the more money it will bring. For instance, shipping tobacco that is low grades of dark, red and green it takes from 1,400 to 1,800 pounds to make a hoghead, is it not reasonable that the larger pile or parcel should bring the most money. Same way with fillers; it takes from 1,000 to 1,250 pounds to make a hoghead, and it costs the dealer more to sell a hoghead weighing 700 pounds than it does one weighing 1,250 pounds. For instance, the hoghead costs \$3, if you put only 700 pounds in it the cost per hundred pounds is 42 cents; whereas, if you make it to weigh 1,250 pounds it only costs 24 cents per hundred pounds, which is a considerable item to the dealer. Now, in shipping tobacco to foreign markets they charge by the space a hoghead occupies, and not by weight; so you see that the freight would be as much on a light hoghead as it would on a heavy one, hence the importance of getting as much of a uniform kind together as you can.—When the bulk is broken it is then that the tobacco should be assorted by the bundle.

Should your tobacco be red, dark and green make three piles; first of the colors and then of the lengths, as each lot has long and short, which is easy to separate, throwing out lug bundles. Too much care cannot be taken in this, as a pile generally sells by the worst sample, hence the planter loses by having his tobacco mixed.

We would suggest to farmers to save their primings, as we know of planters in Virginia and other sections of this State who make money enough from their primings to pay their taxes. We would also suggest that as soon as the tobacco is cut that the farmer turn out and top from one to two suckers on each stalk, as suckers and primings for the last three years have been bringing from \$3 to \$5, which pays the planter well. We urge all farmers to save their primings and suckers, and to bring them to market early, as they generally bring better prices during the fall and winter than later in the season. They are bringing in this market at this time from \$3.50 to \$5. As the season advances we would advise farmers to commence bringing forward their medium and good fillers, also medium and good wrappers, as it is near the time for manufacturers to commence their yearly operations; and as there is a good demand everywhere for manufactured tobacco, planters may expect good prices for their tobacco when in good condition.

THE METHOD OF CURING TOBACCO.—The Culp method of curing tobacco, says an exchange, is distinguished from the old method, as described as follows: It has been customary to hang the cut plant up by the butt under a shed with the leaves pressed against the stalk. Mr. Culp hangs up the plant horizontally so that each leaf is separated, in a tight house so arranged that it can be ventilated and heated. Instead of allowing the plants to hang up until dry enough to use, he takes them down several times and lets them ferment in piles, his process being based on actual chemical analysis of the elements needed to obtain the highest developments of the good qualities, and the throwing off the bad qualities found in the plant when green, or formed during the process when curing.

For the Maryland Farmer.

## YOUNG MEN DON'T LEAVE THE FARM.

Should the following little article, (and which is a matter of actual occurrence) be deemed worthy of a place in your very interesting magazine, it is at your service.

Some forty-five or fifty miles back from one of our large commercial cities, there lived two very respectable and well-to-do farmers. They had farms adjoining each other, and their families were so intimate, that they might almost, be said to be one and the same family. Each of these gentlemen had a son, and they were very nearly of the same age, there being but a few months difference in the same.

These two boys, having been raised together, had become (as was very natural) very much attached to each other; they had played together, they had been to school together, and they had always kept company together, so that they seemed more like one person than two. And yet, they were far from being alike in their dispositions.

One day when they were taking a walk out together, Charles said to John, "John, do you know I have a strong idea of going to — city, and enter as a clerk, and become a merchant, for *farming* is such a drudging kind of business, I do not like it, and no one can ever become much who follows it. It is all toil, but very little pleasure and less profit." This announcement very much astonished John, for he had calculated that they would spend their days together on their respective farms.

He therefore, made use of all the arguments in his power to persuade Charles from (what he considered very visionary) his idea of leaving his father's farm, and venturing upon a city life. But it was all of no use; Charles had made up his mind that farming was a dull business, and he would go to town, where he would become *somebody* in the world.

His father, having more ambition than good sense, being acquainted with a prominent dry goods merchant in the city, sent his son, with a letter of introduction to him. The merchant received him very cordially, and took him as a clerk; the terms were, that for the *first* year he must pay his own expenses, which amounted to \$300, and which he had to call on his father to pay, and which took *all* that his father cleared that year from his farm. The next year he received \$200, salary; but then his idea of *living* had so marvellously increased, that he was obliged to call on his father for \$300 more. The next year was the same; for although his salary was increased, also his ideas of living increased, and he was obliged to call on his father

for help. In the third year, he made a visit home in the country; and as he went up with a very "dashing team," as he was getting near his home, he met his old friend and companion, John, hauling a load of wood; but being so elevated in his ideas of things, he let John pass without recognizing him, although he knew him very well.

After a short visit home, he returned to town and in the sixth year became a partner in the firm where he had been a clerk. His father, thinking his son was about to do a great business, and soon be a very rich man, advanced him all the money he had, (which was some \$5,000 or \$6,000,) and then waited the result. The result was, the concern soon burst up, Charles and his father lost their money, and Charles was exceedingly glad to get back into the country on the farm, and what he once thought a drudge, he found now to be the most pleasant business he could pursue, and not so very profitless either.

But his greatest astonishment, was, that he found his old boy companion, John, instead of having lost everything, had \$3,000 in the bank, and a half interest in his father's farm. Charles never passed John after that without recognizing him!

My young friends in the country, if you have good farms there don't leave them to come to town, thinking you will suddenly become rich, and make so much money you will have nothing to do but to spend it; remember Charles; and he is only a type of thousands of young men who leave *good homes* in the country, and come to town with the vain idea of making a fortune. Stick to your farms, then.

A. D. J.

PAINT FOR ROUGH BUILDINGS.—A correspondent in the *Country Gentleman* gives the following recipe for cheap coloring for rough buildings:

Take 2 oz. of salammoniac and 2 oz. of potash; dissolve these in three quarts of water; then add one quart raw linseed oil; then take, say 10 pounds dry red paint (that was what we used) and add water enough to make it thin enough to put on with a whitewash-brush (we used fish pickle.) Add one gill turpentine to the linseed oil. If red does not suit, add anything to alter the color. We used paint made as above on rough buildings twelve years ago, and it is almost or quite as bright now as when we put it on. To make the building look well, you want to paint the corner boards with white lead and oil.

PEACH TREE BORERS.—Put a hill of soft soil to the tree in early spring, and remove it in the latter part of winter, rubbing off the young worms at the same time. If the tree is clear at first, this will keep it so. A Virginian says so, in the *Country Gentleman*.



THE  
**MARYLAND FARMER,**  
A STANDARD MAGAZINE

**EZRA WHITMAN,**

Proprietor.

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**D. S. CURTISS,** Correspondent and Agent.

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**LOSS OF A VALUABLE HORSE.**—Cecil, a three year old of fine promise, and one of the favorites in Governor Bowie's stable, died from severe cold at the Pimlico Course on Thursday evening, the 1st of May. The Governor had only sent him on a short time before, to go in training for the May meeting, he being entered for the Preakness Stakes, and he had already developed a rate of speed that promised to make him an ugly customer.

**POULTRY EXHIBITION.**—The Maryland State Poultry Association will hold its first exhibition in Baltimore, on June 6th, 1873, when a fine display is expected. Several prizes have been offered by members of the Association.

**CHANGE IN SEED WHEAT—THE BLUE STEM.**

The *Peninsular News and Advertiser*, of Milford, Delaware, states that Thomas B. Coursey, of Spring Mills, Kent county, widely known as one of the most intelligent agriculturists of that State, and as having done much to elevate and advance the interests to which he is so devoted, has experimented in wheat culture, and has been led to believe that a frequent change in seed wheat is necessary in order to keep up a high standard of yield and quality, and he has recently taken much pains to ascertain the origin of our present variety of "blue stem." In December last he opened correspondence with the Agricultural Department at Washington. The commissioner promptly replied to Mr. C.'s letter of inquiry, giving all the information he could upon the subject. He said that the nativity of the variety of wheat was involved in some obscurity, but thought it probable that it came from Leghorn, Italy, but doubted its being known there under the designation of "blue stem." He suggested to Mr. C. that he open correspondence with the United States Consul at that port.—Mr. C. did so, and the result is a negotiation for 20 bushels of the seed from its native elime, which he is expecting to receive in time for sowing the coming fall. He proposes to let his neighbor farmers have a part of it if they wish at cost of importation (\$4 to \$5 per bush.) and the balance he will seed himself. Mr. Coursey has endeavored to get seedsmen to undertake the importation of this wheat, but having failed he has taken the labor and risk upon himself. He deserves, and we trust he may have, ample success in his experiment, and, as in many of his previous good works, confer a benefit upon the public generally.

**A PHENOMENON.**

*To the Editors of the Maryland Farmer:*

One of your correspondents mentioned sometime ago, a very remarkable case of animal re-production. I now give one to match it. A farmer of this county has a cow—Sallie—nine years old. She had a bull calf about February 19th, 1873. This was sold from the cow, March 19th, when it was about four weeks old and the cow was milked as usual, giving over a gallon of milk at a mess. On the 27th of March, 8 days from the taking away of the first calf, and about 38 days from its birth, a second calf, this time a heifer, was born and at the present writing is well, suckling its mother and active, and as large as the first calf which was of ordinary size.

Yours truly,

JUDEx.



## MD. STATE POULTRY ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the Maryland Poultry Association was held in this city on Friday evening, May 9th, at the Agricultural Rooms.

The committee appointed for the purpose reported a constitution and by-laws, which were adopted. The object of the association is declared to be to promote interest in and the improvement of breeds of poultry, pigeons, &c., by public discussions and exhibitions of stock among the members, &c. An entrance fee of \$2, and \$1 as dues every four months thereafter, shall be paid by members. The executive committee shall prepare premium lists, and provide suitable medals, diplomas, &c., for exhibitors. Exhibitors shall pay 50 cents entry fee for each pen sent for exhibition, and the stock will be taken care of, fed, &c., by the association, exhibitors to furnish their own coops or cages. Each member may exhibit three pens without charge, but shall pay 50 cents for each additional pen.—Quality, purity of race, beauty of plumage and uniformity of markings, combs and other characteristics to be considered by the judges rather than mere size or weight, if the more perfect specimens are of a fair average size. Exhibitors shall fix a price on their specimens. A prohibitory price can be named, but if demanded a sale must take place. The judges are to be governed by the American standard of excellence.

The election of officers then took place, and resulted in electing the following gentlemen:

*President.*—W. S. G. Baker.

*Vice-Presidents.*—E. S. G. Weiderman, B. T. Town, E. Whitman, Baltimore; John Bussins, Washington, D. C.; Charles E. Coffin, Prince George's; E. A. Wendall, Albany, New York; J. M. Wade, Philadelphia, Pa.; W. H. Churchman, Wilmington, Del.; A. Goebel, Canada; Augustus Shriver, Westminster; John Loats, Frederick; C. C. Magruder, Prince George's; George Coulton, Howard county; Hon. Wm. H. Tuck, Annapolis; Major Wm. Matthews, Port Tobacco; Wm. B. Cassin, Georgetown, D. C.; Joseph H. Bradley, Montgomery.

*Treasurer.*—George Schwinn.

*Financial Secretary.*—John Williar.

*Recording Secretary.*—C. P. Powell.

*Corresponding Secretary.*—James E. Koons.

*Executive Committee.*—G. W. P. Stunz, John D. Oakford, C. D. Parker, Andrew Miller, Dr. P. V. Benson.

The first exhibition will take place the first Friday in June. The following prizes have been offered: by G. W. P. Stunz, a gold medal for the best dark Bramah cock, and a silver medal for the best yellow-winged Turbot; by J. D. Oakford, a gold medal for the best Almond Tumbler, and a silver medal for the best Archangel. The association then adjourned.

## DOG TAX.

From Anne Arundel and other counties we have reports of a great destruction of sheep by dogs during the past winter. Whole flocks of valuable sheep destroyed or ruined by worthless curs. We have labored zealously to secure a dog tax imposed over the whole State, and were pleased to see that an approach only was made to this good result by Prince George's county at the last session of the Legislature. As to its practical working in that county, we have not yet learned. We annex some sensible remarks by the Editor of the *Annapolis Gazette*:

"Mecklenburg county, Va., has a dog tax—what we ought to have had in Anne Arundel long ago. The Mecklenburg county authorities appear to have made good use of it, too for we see that two thousand six hundred dollars were paid into the treasury for the past year as collected from it. The tax was imposed to protect the sheep and encourage sheep raising, and is a sensible measure, if only enforced vigorously. We take it that ninety-nine out of every hundred dogs are only fit to be knocked on the head. As the owners will not do this, however, the next best thing is to tax them as high as possible."

**WATERMELONS AND CANTALoupES IN ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY.**—We learn from the *Annapolis Gazette* that a farmer on the north of the Severn, in that county, has planted this season, 175,000 hills of watermelons, and 100,000 hills of cantaloupes, on which he has used \$8,000 worth of stable manure. With the most unfavorable season, short of total destruction, he must raise a million of melons, and about the same amount of cantaloupes. The *Gazette* adds: As our melons are famous for their excellence, and always command a good price, our enterprising farmer may reasonably calculate on harvesting a heavy crop of greenbacks, and, at the same time, set an example to his neighbors that must stimulate them to greater exertion in future years.

**GERMANY THE GREAT TOBACCO CONSUMER OF EUROPE.**—It is stated that the consumption of tobacco in the German Empire is about 1,200,000 quintals (221½ pounds each) of which 700,000 are of native production and the remainder imported. The proportion per head at present amounts to 3.19 pounds per annum, while it was in England in 1865, .35 per pound; in France, 1.58; in Austria, 1.84.

**SURE CURE FOR A COUGH.**—A large handful of Hoarhound; the same of Life-Everlasting; a large root of Comfrey; a large handful of Elecampane; a quart of molasses. After boiling and straining the first four ingredients, mix in the molasses; boil until as thick as syrup. For a dose, take a dessert spoonful, three times a day.

For the Maryland Farmer.

### WHEAT AND CHARACTER.

DULUTH, MINN., April 23, 1873.

It is a generally admitted fact that the new north-west, the country to be traversed by the Northern Pacific Railway, is the best portion of our common country for the production of both spring and winter wheat. Minnesota as a producer, leads all her sister States. The average yield of wheat per acre for ten years in Minnesota was 17 bushels, while Ohio and Iowa, the next highest in the list, reached only  $12\frac{1}{2}$  and  $10\frac{1}{2}$  respectively. Official returns present the following yield per acre:

	1859.	1868.
Minnesota.....	19'00 bus.	17'00 bus.
Ohio.....	7'50 "	11'31 "
Iowa.....	4'33 "	9'95 "

The largest known yield of other States, as compared with Minnesota, is as follows:

	YEAR.	BUS.
Minnesota.....	1860.	22'05
Michigan.....	1848.	19'00
Ohio.....	1850.	17'08
Massachusetts.....	1849.	16'00

### COMPARISONS.

The air of Minnesota being dry, wheat is but little liable to rust or smut, and may be considered as a certain crop, not only in the certainty and in the average per acre, but also in the relative magnitude of operations she leads the sisterhood of States. In 1859 wheat occupied 34 per cent. of her whole cultivated area, and in 1868 it had increased to 63 per cent. Minnesota raises 40.47 bushels to each inhabitant, Iowa 17.25 bushels, and Ohio 10.10. In 1868, with but two per cent. of her soil under cultivation, the wheat crop of Minnesota exceeded the crop of 1860 of Pennsylvania, Ohio and Virginia, was double that of California, Iowa, New York, Kentucky, Michigan and Maryland combined, and four times that of Missouri.

### DETERIORATION.

The fearfully rapid deterioration of the wheat fields of the States between the 39th and 43d parallel, especially east of the Mississippi, would give us great concern if the railway system of the country were not inviting settlers to the "continental wheat garden of 600,000 square miles, now known as the "New Northwest," and furnishing them with the facilities for transporting their surplus to the non-producing millions of the older States and of Europe. According to the census of 1860 the entire wheat product of New England was sufficient to feed her own people but three weeks; that of New York sufficient for her own consumption but six months; Pennsylvania yielded no exportable surplus; while Ohio in that year yielded of 3,000,-

000 bushels above the wants of her own people, and for the past six years her wheat crop has fallen below the home demand. In ten years ending 1860 the wheat crop in these States has decreased 6,500,000 bushels.

### OUR FUTURE SUPPLY.

The richest part of Minnesota, the Red River valley, is almost untouched. That valley, lying in Minnesota and Dakota, comprises an area of about 38,000,000 acres, which is capable of producing 600,000,000 bushels annually, or three times the entire wheat crop of the United States, and equal to that of the whole world. Wheat does not deteriorate in the Northwest. There are many fields in this State that for twenty years have produced twenty bushels to the acre without the application of any manure. Superior as this is as a wheat-producing State, the country beyond Minnesota is yet more superior, producing more and better wheat to the acre, crops there frequently ranging over thirty-five bushels to the acre, and averaging sixty-two pounds to the bushel. That is emphatically the home of winter wheat.

### EFFECT ON CHARACTER.

It is a fact that nations differing essentially in their respective diets, have marked mental and moral differences. It may be said that such differences are not the result of diet, but of latitudes, and that nations partaking of the same kind of food are alike not because of the similarity of diet, but of the latitude in which they live, so that the whole theory resolves itself into a matter of climate. That this is not so can readily be shown. Confine a man to a meat diet, and he becomes animal, inflamed, sensual; the physical predominates of the mental, and also subjugates the moral. A generation of such will unavoidably beget a gross, unintellectual posterity. Continue the same diet, and their posterity will rank yet lower in the human scale. Like liquor, such food will send inflamed blood to the brains, weakening it, rendering it less perceptive of moral claims, while at the same time it will unduly enlarge the merely sensual nature. Reverse the bill of fare; let the present generation become vegetarian, and the result will be increased brain capacity, and, perchance, clearer moral vision; but with such a diminution of force of character that the beautiful etherial engine will lack motive power, so that the clearer intellect, the elevated soul will only be a dreamer, not a producer of good. The next generation will be yet more dreamy, yet more unproductive of anything elevating to the race. Both cases will present proofs that character is largely affected by diet.



## WHEAT THE COMPLETEST FOOD.

Man has both a mental and an animal nature, each of which must be properly fed and developed, or he is imperfect. Wheat is pre-eminently the food of civilized nations, and perhaps there can be no better measure of their civilization than the culture and consumption of that cereal. Nations have grown sturdy and progressive in the rates of the consumption of wheat by all classes. Lovers of "brown bread" need not deny these statements, for the consumption of wheat does not necessarily imply the use of bolted flour. Scientific analysis confirms the indications of history. Anatomy and chemistry show that food to be best which gives toughness and muscular fibre and tone to the brain, which best revives the flagging spirit when the energies lie prostrate without maddening stimulants.

That wheat fulfills all these conditions is not only attested by the character and fate of nations, but is susceptible of scientific demonstration. The nice adjustment of its vital properties supports brain and blood and muscle in just the proportion requisite for the highest type of manhood. Refinement, fortitude and enterprise most distinguish those nations which most consume wheat. Beef eating and wheat consuming races dominate and elevate the race and consumers with whom they come in contact. Russia's serfs, lifted above the poverty of "black bread," are becoming consumers of the wheat they raise, and are rising in everything that appertains to true manhood with a rapidity second only to the United States. Perchance something more than the satisfaction of appetite was included in that promise to the faithful—

"They shall be filled with the finest of wheat."

The "New Northwest" will remain the wheat garden of the United States, and in after centuries will become the granary of the world. To this distinction will be added another. Rich enough to consume all they need of the wheat they raise, living in a climate wondrously adapted to bring out their best efforts, amply supplied with schools and churches, here will grow up one of the highest types of manhood, which will prove to the world that not inaptly has the "New Northwest" been termed the "seat of empire." WHEAT.

New York City is supplied with early vegetables from the Bermuda Islands. New potatoes are found in New York markets from the above locality in February. Strawberries from Charleston, S. C., were selling May 10th for \$2.50 per quart; green peas from Florida, \$8 per barrel; hot house cucumbers, \$5 a dozen; Bermuda new potatoes, \$10 a barrel.

For the Maryland Farmer.

## AMERICAN SCIENCE.

In this new system of science the economy of nature is regarded as a form of government, having God for its Law-giver and Governor. This is that which is referred to as "the Kingdom of God."

In this government are two separate classes of subjects designated as matter and mind, or forms of matter and constitutions of mind. For the government of each of these classes of subjects there is provided a distinct code of laws—the motions and changes of form of matter having for their regulation and for their *immediate causes*, the code called *the physical laws*; while the actions or conduct of minds or of living beings, are governed and regulated by means of the other code of the laws of nature that may be termed *the instincts*.

The physical laws are made to govern inanimate and animated forms of matter, in accordance with the teaching of the Bible, wherein the winds, waves and mountains are said to be subject to, and to obey the commands of God. The instincts or laws made to govern the conduct of living or animate beings have for their enforcement in nature the special provision of a system of rewards and punishments; these instincts being the expressions of the will of the Creator relating to the conduct of His creatures, a conformity to His will is there seen to be the condition of enjoyment on their part, as suffering is found to be invariably the consequence of a forgetfulness or non-observance of these laws or commands. In this respect the new system of science is again in accord with the teaching of the Bible; "Not every one that saith unto me Lord, Lord, shall enter into the Kingdom of Heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in Heaven."

From the above views may be deduced one of the fundamental principles of American Science, namely: *the Creator has placed himself in relation with this world, only through the intervention of His laws or ordinances*. He makes no cells and endows none with active properties, or with the ability to perform the function or to give rise to the phenomena of cell-growth. He makes not the material bodies of plants nor of animals, neither does He make the flowers of plants or the organs and members of the animal body. The performance of all these acts is referred to His creatures, who are instructed in this performance by means of laws or ordinances proceeding from Him, and calculated to carry out His designs in the creation. The work or labor in animated nature is all performed by His creatures, by the laborers in His vineyard, and as the reward for this labor they have the enjoyments, pleasures or happiness of this life. Every pleasure we enjoy here may fairly be traced to the due observance of some of the instincts. "Lord let me learn thy statutes; for in keeping of them there is great reward."

An estimate may be made of the amount of happiness enjoyed in this life when it is considered that the instincts enjoin the due performance of every function of which beings are made capable, and also require the proper exercise of every faculty with which they are endowed.

L. M.

*For the Maryland Farmer.*

# POTOMAC FRUIT GROWERS ASSOCIATION.

MAY SESSION.

Chalkley Gillingham in the chair; Paris H. Folsom, Secretary. Circulars received from E. B. Georgia, patentee of Clifton fruit crate. This crate which is growing in favor, is offered in bundles ready for setting up at 12 cents per bushel crate. Professor Brainard offered printed copies of his report on the Black Knot of the Grape, for distribution. He said he wished them examined as critically as he had examined the subject itself, to the end that what was true might be proved and what was error corrected. The thanks of the association were given him for his care. J. T. Bramhall spoke of the unusual amount of injury the vines were receiving this spring from insects. He had put in a small box a couple of cut worms and a couple of soft brown spiders. On opening, the former were all right, but the spiders were not to be found. Had the cut worms eaten them too? From what he had seen he thought the soft brown spider, measuring half an inch from tip to tip, and a smaller one dotted with white, nipped off the upper shoots, while the common cut worm, of which there were several around each vine, did the work for the lower shoots at night. Question: how shall the more troublesome spider be managed? Referred to Prof. Brainard.

Chalkley Gillingham read an instructive paper on the site of the orchard. He said it was now time to study results. Cease to copy the customs of other climates. Study the habits of the tree, and the climatic changes of different aspects. At the north we choose a southern slope, here a northern slope is better. Profit by the experience of others, and study the lessons which are presented by the contrasts of different orchards in your neighborhood.

These were the points enlarged upon in this paper, which at the request of the association the reader promised to follow up with others on the same subject.

Apricots being spoken of, in connection with the frost of April 24th, C. Gillingham said his trees which are of various varieties he noticed early in the morning were badly frosted. He directed the man to shower them well with cold water. One was accidentally passed over. Result: those washed were uninjured, the other so much so as to appear nearly dead. Dr. Howland said the frost was not so bad with him near the river, but his trees were bitten earlier and from the 1,500 he should

not have over thirty bushels. Thought therefore he should not jar trees for curculio.

*Fruit Reports.* Montgomery county reports about one-third of a crop of peaches. Prince George's peaches and cherries good; strawberries and raspberries somewhat injured, not seriously. Fairfax, Va.; Mount Vernon, good prospect for all fruit. Clifton, no peaches at all; a tenth crop of apples. Providence, good prospect, peaches only destroyed in low places. Drainsville, much loss. Falls Church, much loss in peaches; Strawberries look well.

Shortening in, in summer, after gathering fruit was recommended by Maj. Williams as a protection, by enabling the tree to better mature its wood, and he instanced several cases. Get a good tree pruner and there is little trouble about it.—Mr. Bramhall thought that a principal reason of loss was that the orchards were planted in low situations, near marshes or runs, instead of being placed in high airy situations.

The fruit exhibited lacked variety but not quality. C. Gillingham showed Winesap, Abram and Tewsbury Blush. S. H. Snowdon showed the Abram. Maj. Williams showed Tewsbury Blush and samples of skilfully sun-dried apples. J. T. Bramhall presented a boquet composed of the large white blossoms of the Fall Pippin, the pinker ones of the Summer Queen, and the delicate pear-like blossoms of the Siberian Crab. He also presented samples of the Payne paper berry box which it is claimed can be made for 25 cents per 100 pints.—Rights cost \$5 for five acres or less in small fruits. The box is light, will absorb juices, requires no nailing and appears to be cheap. The inventor is S. D. Payne, Kasota, Minn. Mr. King showed the French style of folding paper boxes for seeds which he thought would answer the same purpose.

Maj. Williams announced that the President of the W. & O. R. R. had expressed his willingness to return free members attending meetings, and visitors attending exhibitions. A committee, consisting of the President and Maj. Williams was appointed to confer with the Presidents of other companies with regard to agreeing in a similar arrangement. This society is one which is working actively in opening the country to immigration, by improving the fruits and modes of fruit culture and informing the world through many papers that now publish its reports, of the unequalled advantages it possesses, a fruit region, in climate, aspects, markets, everything. And such work, though not so designed, accrues to the best interests of the railroads.

The next meeting will take place on the 3rd of June, when there will be held a Strawberry Exhibition, and on the 17th one for Raspberries and Flowers. Flowers will be in order also at the Strawberry Exhibition.

HOLLYWOOD,



## SHEEP BREEDING FOR PROFIT.

## BEST BREEDS—GENERAL MANAGEMENT.

*Eds. Country Gentleman*—Your correspondent W. W. C., asks respecting the comparative value for wool of South-Down and Cotswold sheep. As he lives in Hamilton County, he cannot do better than ask D. D. Bullock & Co., wool merchants, Third Street, Cincinnati, who will inform him that "combing" wool, such as Cotswold and Leicester sheep yield, is worth 50 to 55 cents per pound (unwashed,) when "middle" wool, such as South-Down sheep yield, is only 40 to 45.

As a sheep-raiser of seven years' experience with both sorts, I can say that a Cotswold sheep is more likely to shear 8 lbs. of wool than a South-Down is 5 lbs. The comparative value of the fleeces at Cincinnati last shearing would have been—Cotswold, 8 lbs. of wool at 55 cents, \$4.40; South-Down, 5 lbs. of wool at 45 cents, \$2.25; difference in favor of the Cotswold, \$2.15.

The Cotswold sheep however are not nearly so hardy as the South-Down. They need shelter and grain in winter. If Cotswold sheep get weak and stunted, the wool will be tender or rotten, and will not rank as combing wool. It is also likely to be too short for combing. It then only sells at the price of South-Down wool.

I would say to a person about to engage in sheep raising in Hamilton County, Ohio—if you intend to give your sheep abundant pasture in the summer, and grain or clover hay in the winter, and shelter them from the storms, keep long wooled sheep, Cotswold or Leicesters, (I prefer the former.) If you keep sheep just to kill out briers in the summer, give them no shelter in the winter, and no grain or hay—nothing but a straw stack to eat, keep South-Downs. I will state, however, that provided you feed a flock of sheep corn *ad libitum*, they will do very well with no other fodder than barley or oat straw. They will not, however, be as fat in the spring as if they had been fed corn or oats and clover hay *ad lib.* Clover hay is the cheapest food that can be fed to sheep in this State, or at least in this county. Timothy hay is so dear in Cincinnati that it pays better to sell it and feed corn and straw. Timothy hay is now worth in Cincinnati \$26 per ton; corn 46 cents per bushel of shelled grain.

I have had the best success in raising lambs to turn the ram with the ewes in midsummer, and let him serve them as soon as they come in season.

Some ewes will come in season so much sooner than others that the ram's power will not be overtaxed—I never turn more than one ram at a time with the flock of ewes. I generally divide my

ewes into as many flocks as I have rams, and put one with each flock.

It might be supposed that lambs coming in midwinter would nearly all die. I can simply say that during my experience of seven years I have been able to raise as many lambs as I had ewes. Some lost their lambs, but I had always twin lambs that I could take to replace them. The past winter has been about as severe as the history of this State records. I last summer let 70 ewes with the rams. About 40 of them have had lambs, and now every ewe that has lambed has a lamb with her, either her own or a foster twin lamb. I think seven ewes lost their own lambs, which I replaced with twins. There are two ewes yet that are nursing twins.

I am very well satisfied if every ewe raises one lamb and no more. One year, when I did not wish to increase my stock of sheep, and wanted as many as possible to sell to the butcher, I destroyed every extra twin limb so as to leave one lamb to each ewe. I generally sell my early ram lambs to the butchers about the 1st of May, and sometimes my early ewe lambs, and keep the late ones for store sheep. I think South-Down ewes suckle better and will make better early lambs than Cotswold ewes. When the early lambs are sold, the ewes should be milked for two or three days, or the accumulated milk will be very likely to cause inflammation and destroy the milk in a future pregnancy.

The past winter I have fed my sheep simply on corn and barley straw, and am very well satisfied with the result. I believe, however, if I had two acres of ground to devote to sheep feed, I would rather have one acre clover and the other acre corn than both in corn.

Sheep will not eat corn meal if they can get plenty of whole corn; therefore it is easy to feed the young lambs on corn meal. Just put it in a V-shaped trough, where the flock run, and the young lambs soon eat it. The ewes will not, if they have plenty of whole corn.

I always separate the ewes that have lambed from those about to lamb, as fast as the lambs fall, keep the flocks separate. It is *absolutely necessary* that ewes lambing in the winter be *well fed*. I believe grain is necessary. If fed on straw alone, they will more than half lose their lambs, and their milk will not come for two or three days after lambing.

Dry, cold weather does not do much injury to sheep; it is wet-cold, cold rain or sleet, that hurts them. My flock of ewes this winter have had no shelter until after they lambed but the lee side of a straw stack; yet I have only lost seven lambs out

of forty, and six of them were lost when it was raining. The past winter I have had lambs come in the night, when the thermometer stood 20° below zero, and follow their mother in the morning. If a lamb lives long enough to suck, and does suck, and his mother has plenty of milk, he is safe and will thrive, let the weather be what it may. When a cold rain is falling, a somewhat weakly lamb will never have strength enough to suck, and will therefore very soon die, unless taken under shelter and carefully nursed.

I have had about ten years' experience in raising late lambs (April and May); and seven years' experience in raising early lambs (January, February and March,) and I like the former plan the best.—If I fed no grain I would prefer the latter plan.

JOHN S. BOWLES.

Hamilton County, O.

#### NUMBER OF RACES AND HORSES IN 1872.

To show the great increase in the breeding of racers and highbred horses for the improvement of the equine race in this country, and the great source of wealth to farmers who have means of investing in such stock and breeding to supply the growing demand for such animals for the turf or other purposes, we insert the following statistical table from the *Turf, Field and Farm*:

This past season, like its predecessor, shows a healthy increase in the number of turf events. Appended we give the number of races in all parts of the United States last year—five hundred and ninety-five, divided as follows:

At 300 yards.....	1	At 1½ mile.....	19
¼ mile.....	10	1½ miles.....	21
¼-mile heats.....	2	1½-mile heats.....	3
600 yards.....	2	1½ miles.....	4
½ mile.....	27	1½ miles.....	13
½-mile heats.....	50	2 miles.....	29
½-mile heats, 3 in 5.....	17	2-mile heats.....	39
5 furlongs.....	1	2½ miles.....	2
¾ mile.....	24	2½ miles.....	6
¾-mile heats.....	2	2½ miles.....	5
¾-mile heats, 3 in 5.....	1	3 miles.....	1
¾-mile heats.....	1	3 miles.....	12
¾-mile heats, 3 in 5.....	1	3-mile heats.....	1
1 mile.....	60	4 miles.....	7
1-mile heats.....	139	4-mile heats.....	4
1-mile heats, 3 in 5.....	41	Hurdle Races.....	21
1 mile 80 yards.....	1	Steeplechases.....	13
1½ miles.....	12	No distance given.....	2
		Total Races.....	595

For these 595 races, 905 different horses ran.—To show the increase in the number of turf events for the last four years we annex the following table:

1869, Number of Races .....	332
1870, " " .....	474
1871, " " .....	542
1872, " " .....	595

This shows the marked increase in the last three years of two hundred and sixty-three races. The figures speak for themselves, and show what a decided hold racing is gaining on the affections of the people.

For the Maryland Farmer.

#### THE FRENCH DOCTOR'S LITTLE TALK.

##### CHILBLAIN AVOIDED OR CURED.

A little evil, insignificant in itself, but which causes real annoyance during winter, is the inflammatory swelling of the skin, which is known by the name of chilblain.

How many persons are affected by it for want of preventions. A little care would suffice to avoid it.

When you wash your hands, you must be careful to wipe them dry, so as to leave no moisture; for it is that moisture which by freezing at the contact of the air, stops the circulation of the blood, and forms the chilblain.

You must avoid, also, when you get home from outside, to warm yourself quickly, because cold alternating with heat, also produces chilblain.

Such precautions suffice to prevent the evil.

Now, when you let it come, you can cure it by a cold water bath with mustard, or by frictions of salt water with alum, or by a lotion of camphored brandy. As to the last remedy, don't make any mistake, ye gentle readers of the *Maryland Farmer*; it must be taken *externally*. *Internal* use would not do for chilblains at least.

##### SCALDING.

There is scarcely a day in the whole year when papers do not relate some accident by fire; therefore it seems quite useful to recommend a very simple remedy for scalds. It consists in covering as speedily as possible the burnt part with a thick coat of powdered alum, or to whitewash it with water in which previously a *certain dose of alum* has been dissolved. This remedy is very simple and efficient.

##### UNSOUND MILK.

It is necessary to make known to farmers and milkmen, and to mothers and nurses at large, the real danger that exists in making use of the milk of diseased cows or goats, especially when children, and more particularly infants, are concerned.

Such milk, even taken in small quantity, is hurtful to health in the extreme. If you give it boiled or not, even mixed with 9-10 of sound milk, the child resents immediately its effects. First, the child gets lean, emaciated, without any apparent reason; then diarrhœa follows, and soon the intervention of a physician becomes useless. It is too late in most cases.

Be on your guard then, prudent mothers and nurses!

A true friend does sometimes venture to be offensive.

A hog upon trust grunts till he is paid for



## NEW TOBACCO PRESS.



The above is a drawing of a new Tobacco Press, patented by Dr. J. Felix Morgan, which we promised some time ago. The chief feature recommendatory of it was its adaptability to small planters. The *St. Mary's Beacon* gives the following notice of this Press, which we have before published in the *Farmer*:

"Dr. J. Felix Morgan, of this county, has recently obtained "Letters Patent" for the invention of a Portable Tobacco Press, quite a number of which have been constructed, under his personal supervision, and are now being used by the planters in this county. The chief advantage of this press over the old style press, or Prize, consists in the great saving of time and labor and the improved condition of the tobacco when prepared for market. The leaf will not be bruised in packing, and will always present an even and smooth appearance. One man can easily prize a hogshead of tobacco in a day—full weight—and two men can prize three hogsheads. Another advantage connected with this patent is that, by the use of a simply constructed railway platform—being a part of the invention—two hogsheads can be worked alternately, under the same screw, and the process of packing and pressing thereby greatly expedited. All who have used this press speak in the highest praise of its general utility, and are particularly pleased with the durability and simplicity of its construction. It may be readily removed intact, or any ordinary farm laborer can take it to pieces and put it together, without the slightest apprehension of damage to it."

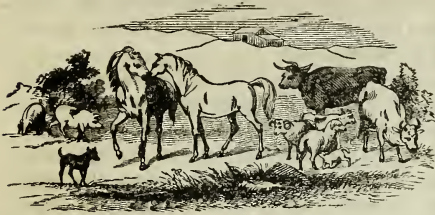
## HOW SEEDS LIVE.

From Prof. Gray's fascinating little volume "How Plants Grow," we take the following extract for young readers:

"Although alive, a seed may for a long while show no signs of life, and feel neither the summer's heat nor winter cold. It lives on where it falls in this slumbering way until the next spring in most plants, or sometimes until the spring after that, before it begins to grow. There is a great difference in this respect in different seeds. Those of Red Maple ripen in the spring, and start about the middle of the summer. Those of Sugar Maple ripen in the fall, and lie quiet until the next spring. When gathered and laid in a dry place, many seeds will keep alive two, three, or several years, and in this way plants may be safely transported all around the world. How long seeds will live is uncertain. The stories of seeds growing which have been preserved two or more thousand years with Egyptian mummies, are not to be believed. But it is well known that sensitive plants have been raised from seeds over sixty years old. Few kinds of seeds will grow after keeping them five or six years; many refuse to grow after the second year, and some will not grow at all unless allowed to fall at once to the ground. There is no way of telling whether the germ of a seed is alive or not except by trying whether it will grow, that is, will germinate. The seed first imbibes some moisture through its coats, swells a little, and as it feels the warmth the embryo slowly awakes from its long and deep sleep, and stretches itself, as it were. Tear open a fresh morning glory seed, or cut a dried one in two, and you will find a rich, jelly-like matter packed away with the embryo, and filling all the spaces between its folds. This albumen is what the embryo feeds on, enabling its little stemlet to grow, and form its root downwards, carry up and expand its seed leaves, and so become a plantlet with root, stem and leaves."

The railroad tunnel at Baltimore, which is to unite the roads on the north and south sides of the city, is to be completed before the end of June, and, until the completion of the Broadway Underground Railway in New York, will form the largest underground railroad possessed by any city in America.

**REMEDY FOR CUT-WORMS.**—We repeat the effectual remedy for this, which we have published for several seasons past, viz: a tablespoonful of coarse salt on each hill of corn, *after* it is planted, but *before* it is up.

*Live Stock Register.*

HOLSTEIN CATTLE.

We have been handed the following letter from our friend J. J. PARKER, of West Chester. It was addressed to him by the gentleman who recently travelled with him in some parts of Holland, and may tend to throw some light on the now vexed question of Holstein *vs.* Dutch.

"Hamburg, Dec. 16, 1872.

"J. J. PARKER,

*Dear Sir:* I have written to several parties in quest of a history of our Holstein breed of cattle—called upon the Government veterinary surgeon for the Duchey Schleswig Holstein—but from all sides hear that no printed history exists.

Now I will give you all information that I collected, and must first give a general introduction to the country, that you may better understand the matter.

Commonly you might expect in such a small space as the two Dutchies are, to find one breed of cattle; but this is not the case. I send you by mail a map of Schleswig Holstein, drawing lines with red ink to show you where the different breeds are to be found.

On the east coast the Angelsche (Anglo) breed is predominant. This is the part of our country where our large dairy farms are, they rear no cattle, but buy young heifers from Angeln, a district you find on the map in the Duchey of Schleswig.

The cattle are red, with thin horns—give good milk, of which more and better butter is produced than with any other breed of cattle. They are essentially dairy cattle, carrying little flesh, having neither size nor weight. When fat, 500 to 600 lbs., being considered rather good weight for them. When fat, bull calves that are not required for breeding are killed as soon as they are born in Angeln, and the heifers sold as I said before, to the large estate along the east coast, where they are kept in the dairies until too old for milking, and then killed for the laborers, poor as they are. All the calves on these large estates are taken to the butcher as soon as they are born, without getting a drop of milk.

This is the Angeln race of cattle occupying and numbering strongest part of Schleswig Holstein. The second race lives in the centre of the Dutchies, on heath and moor, ground;—small as the soil, they thrive on and need not be mentioned.

Now we go to the west, and here we find, according to age of the country, the heavier cattle. A cross breed, the "Breitenborgers," by Itzehoe, originated by crossing heavy marsh cattle with those of the east. They are fair milkers, carry on a heavier frame more beef, and are worth more to the butcher than the east coast cattle, and can live on soil that would starve cows from the marshes.—The whole west coast the marshes have been dyked in from the sea, are under the level of the sea protected by large high dykes from the flood. The soil is a stiff fat clay, washed up from the bottom of the sea, that without manure brings forth since centuries, a thick grass, which the cattle in only very dry seasons are able to keep under. According to the age, the different parts (here called kooz,) have been redeemed from the sea. The soil, and with it the breed of cattle, differs; and we draw lines between the breed of Wilster and Crampe, though both places are only a few English miles apart and join each others fields. But as a rule, all these cattle are of our marshes—are of the same origin.

No doubt (as you say,) you find a good sprinkling of the Short-Horn here; but a man with half an eye can detect that at once.

Our marsh cattle (misnamed by you Holstein,) are mostly spotted, roan-blue, red and white, and red and black.

In South Dithmarshe, as you have seen, they have been breeding of late years more white, or as near white as they could.

The cattle are large framed, carry plenty of beef, and for inside fat they are much renowned,—a beast with 120 lbs., of kidney fat being quite common. Young bullocks will get up to the weight of 800 lbs., to 1,200 lbs. in feeding four or five months on grass only. The quantity of milk these cows give is so enormous, that I refrain to mention figures, for fear of being thought exaggerating. They must be milked three times a day, the milk being very fat and yielding much better.

The largest and best cattle are to be found in Eiderstedt, Duchey Schleswig. Black and white predominate among the cows. You are aware there are no herd-books kept here, but I could give you the history of prize cattle possibly for three or four generations back, from reliable sources. The bull who took the first prize at Wilster (the little town we went to), brought 500 thalers. The Holstein as you call them, or more rightly termed "marsh cattle," are considered superior to the Holland in regard to milk and butter producing.—*Practical Farmer.*



## THE DAIRY.

### BUTTER-MAKING.

#### TEMPERATURE.

We do not think an abundance of running water absolutely essential to the best results in butter-making, if you can keep the temperature of the milk room at the right point. It is only necessary to reduce the temperature of the milk to about 70 degrees soon after it is drawn from the cow, if you can set it in a room with a temperature of 58 or 60 degrees. Indeed, it is our impression that surrounding milk and keeping its temperature down with cold water, while exposing the surface to a temperature varying with the weather, is injurious to the flavor and the keeping qualities of the butter.

The best temperature for raising cream, it is admitted by our best butter makers is about 60 degrees. The variation should not be much above or below this. At this point we should prefer, if possible, to keep the temperature of the milk-room the year round. In it we would keep the milk and the cream until it was ready to churn. If you go below this, it retards the rising of the cream and we think injures the butter. It is a pretty well established fact that the best cheese can not be made out of milk that has gone much below 65 degrees. Below that the sweet nutty flavor disappears. We think then when we begin to go below 60 degrees, we begin to lose the rosy smell and aromatic flavor of our butter. It may remain sweet, but it has forever lost that delicious, creamy taste which is a peculiarity of fancy butter, and when afterward exposed to a higher temperature, decay is more rapid because of the chilling it had received. We would not, therefore, if we could as well as not, let milk go below 60 degrees—certainly not below 58 degrees.

The best temperature for churning is somewhere between 60 and 65 degrees—about 62 or 63 in summer, and 65 in winter. If you begin churning at 60, even in a room of that temperature, you will raise the temperature of the cream two or three degrees in a very short time, and increase the bulk. It is not the season alone which demands a variation in the temperature of the cream between summer and winter—that you should churn it warmer in winter and colder in summer. It is true that in warm weather the tendency of the temperature is to rise, and in cold weather to sink. But there is another reason why a higher temperature is required in winter than in summer. It is found in the composition of the butter. In summer, here is more oil and less hard fat in the butter.—

In winter, there is more hard fat and less oil. In winter, the proportion of hard fat to oil is about 60 parts fat to 40 parts oil. In summer, this proportion is reserved, and we have about 40 parts of hard fat to 60 parts of oil. Hence, butter at the same temperature is harder in winter than it is in summer. This is of itself sufficient reason for churning at a higher temperature in winter than in summer.

It is well known that the flavor of butter made in the summer is better than that of butter made in winter. It is not because there is more oil in summer and less hard, tasteless fat? It is not exactly known what gives butter its peculiar flavor. We suspect the flavor is imparted by some quality in the oil, and that where we diminish the quantity of oil and increase the quantity of hard fat, we weaken the flavor and make the butter insipid. We would like to see some experiments tried to decide this point. If we are right, the butter from a cow noted for the high flavor of the butter, will contain a larger proportion of oil than the butter from a cow whose product is comparatively tasteless.—*Utica Herald.*

DAIRY FACTS NOT GUESSED AT.—Deacon Solomon Robinson, of Dudley, Mass., lately told at a farmers' gathering how he treated two farrow milch cows, and what were the profits connected with it, without any guessing or other indefinite language. The two cows consumed 200 lbs. of hay per week, and nine quarts of meal each, which costs Mr. R. \$5 per week for both, \$2.50 apiece. The milk product is 18 quarts per day, which realizes gross, \$9 per week; profit \$4 per week. When farmers can all, or even generally, tell what it costs to produce milk or other products, we shall not hear as many complaints as now against farming, because when one crop is produced at a loss they will abandon it for something better before the farm mortgage is foreclosed.

WHAT KENTUCKY DID.—Kentucky produced in the year 1872, according to the State Auditor's report, 97,207,261 pounds of tobacco, 30,236,378 short of the product for 1871. The largest increase is reported in Pendleton County, the product being 2,694,720, an increase of 855,770. The next largest, Owen County, showing a product of 2,249,700, and an increase over 1872 of 233,500. Davies County exhibits the largest product, 6,665,855—1,145,095 less than 1871. Henderson County, the next largest, produced 6,263,460—2,012,119 less than 1871.

A fox should not be on the jury at a goose's trial.

## The Poultry House.

### GAME CHICKENS.

Col. W. W. W. Bowie, *Editor Maryland Farmer* :

HAYFIELDS, May 7th, 1873.

Some weeks since, you addressed me a note asking for information, respecting the approved crosses of game chickens. At that time I was unable to comply with your request ; but since having made a visit to the State of Georgia, and availed myself of opportunities that offered, will endeavor to give you the result of my inquiries. I spent 29th ulto. at Macon, and learned that upon the next day there was to be a cock fight for large stakes, the contest being between Augusta and Macon. Through the kindness of a friend I was introduced to Mr. Bedell, who had some thirty cocks in his keeping, and he took pleasure in exhibiting many of them, singly, and giving their crosses and successes—he claims that the best fighting cock of this day, is a cross of Dusty Miller and Stone Fence, and produced one that he had offered to fight, matched for five thousand dollars—his chickens were generally white bodied, some speckled, all saddle backed, except a few that had more or less Derby in them ; he considers the Derby far behind the others for his purposes—he has some, with more or less Dominica, they are not reliable, although South Carolina Dominica, was the most successful fighter in three mains in Augusta. Now, Colonel, I do not wish to convey the idea to your readers, that I am a cock-fighter, or approve of such disputes, but will always claim for yourself and myself an admiration for the game chicken, which might be assimilated, to that we entertain and ever will, for the sprightly, pretty woman, be she *widow*, matron, or maid.

### A SLY OLD CHICKEN.

While at Augusta, S. D. Heard, Esq., called my attention to a Dusty Miller Hen, that had been in his yard seventeen years ; upon my return a week afterwards, she had been missing for two days, a search found her setting on fourteen eggs, under a cotton bale. Mr. Heard, for the last two years has prevented her setting, and he claims that this is a regular case of *outwitting*, as he had discovered no intimation of her desiring to set. I am the fortunate possessor of two of this old hen's chickens, also a Dusty Miller and Stone Fence Cock, the latter is running with some Derby hens, while the former are with the Derby Cock.

Game chickens for the table are highly appreciated. Having raised a limited number last year, as most frequent opportunities offered of testing

them, I do not hesitate to say, that the difference in favor of the games was distinct.

I am giving some attention to raising them ; have now forty-eight pure game chicks, and with good luck, hope to make a creditable display at State Fair this fall.

Truly yours,

J. MERRYMAN.

### FERTILIZERS FOR POTATOES.

A correspondent in a recent number of the *Country Gentleman* recommends as a fertilizer for potatoes the following, viz :—One part salt, two parts plaster, three parts lime, and four parts wood ashes ; mixed together, and one tablespoonful applied to each hill at the time of planting. On land tolerably rich with humus or vegetable substance, like an old pasture, or bound-out mowing lot, the above fertilizer I think would prove an excellent dressing for potatoes, much better than barn-yard manure, especially if in its raw green state. I think I shall use some in this way this season by way of experiment on a small piece of potatoes. But on land such as I usually grow potatoes, viz :—sandy loam and rather lean in humus or vegetable substance, I should prefer a moderate barn-shovelfull of ripe compost in addition to the above-named fertilizer, applied to each hill, composed of one part green barn-yard manure and three parts good swamp muck. I have had very excellent luck for a number of years with this compost in the cultivation of potatoes on soil as above described, and can recommend it. I have used also with good success all the ingredients in the above-described fertilizer except the lime, incorporating them with the compost, and also applying them to the hill at the time of planting, and to the vines, except the salt, during their growing state, it serving not only to promote their growth, but to keep the vines green and healthy, and I see nothing why a little lime mixed in with these other ingredients should not be equally beneficial to promote the growth of the potato plant.—ROYAL SMITH, in *Ger. Telegraph*.

TO MAKE GREEN PICKLES.—A correspondent in the *Scientific American* replies to the question "how to make green pickles," as follows : If hard, green cucumber pickles are wanted, salt down in dry salt, putting a layer of salt in a jar, then a layer of pickles, and so on until full. This will produce pickles as green as they can be made, but it is more costly than making brine. If you have stock to feed the salt to, it will be better than the old process. Souring may be done in the usual way. Of course the above process is not calculated for manufacturers for market.



## THE APIARY.

### THE MOTH-MILLER.

We regard the fear entertained of the moth-miller as mis-directed, and more imaginary than real. As long as a stock is strong and in good condition it is safe, but should it be suffered to decline from overwarming, loss of queen, or other cause, the eggs of the miller are allowed to hatch in the exposed combs, as the bees die off from natural causes the moth-worms increase, and, if not dislodged, finally gain entire possession. The female miller is much larger than the male, and resembles in color a sliver from a weather-beaten fence rail. During the day she may often be found sticking about the cover of the hive.—Toward evening she will be flitting about the entrance, and if the combs are not covered with bees, or cracks and crevices can be found, or litter is retained on the bottom board, she will be at no loss for a place to deposit her eggs within the hive. There can be no "moth-proof" hive; but if the entrance be on one side only, and the bottom board is inclined, the bees have all the protection against these intruders that a hive can afford. *Moth-proof* hives (so-called) are owned either by persons of little information, or sold to such by unprincipled venders, as well-informed bee-keepers know how to prevent the ravages of the moth, and also know that in warm weather more or less moth eggs are present in the combs. Hence, a real moth-proof hive must also exclude the bees. During the summer months, if a mixture of vinegar and water, well sweetened, be placed at night among the hives in white dishes, many millers will be drowned.—Moth "traps" form the basis of a considerable trade. Some of these might be well enough if they were emptied, and the worms destroyed every week; but as they are usually neglected, they become "moth nurseries" instead of traps. Worms may be trapped early in the season by laying pieces of shingle or split elder, the hollowing side down, upon the bottom board. The worms will retreat under these to spin their cocoons, and must be destroyed once or twice a week, or they "take unto themselves wings and fly away." The moth is less troublesome in large apiaries. The sprightly little wren, if encouraged to build its nest near the hives, will destroy myriads of worms and insects. They are easily attracted, by putting up boxes made three inches square, with an inch and a half hole for an entrance.—*Rural Sun, Nashville, Tenn.*

Crows are never the whiter for washing themselves.

Busy folks are always meddling.

### THE WONDERFUL MONTECITO GRAPE.

"About four miles from the town, in the valley of Montecito, grows the now famous grape vine, one of the wonders for the tourist in Southern California. It is the largest on record. It measures four feet four inches in circumference at the ground, forty-one inches two feet from the ground, and rises eight before branching out; then spreading with extreme luxuriance, its branches cover more than five thousand square feet, and are supported by fifty-two trellises. The largest branch is thirty inches in circumference, and were it not for frequent pruning, the branches would extend indefinitely in every direction. It is of the Mission variety and exceedingly prolific, producing annually from five to six tons of grapes, which hang in massive clusters beneath the trellises, the effect of which, in the mellow autumn time, excites admiration and wonder. It is claimed that it has produced 7,000 bunches of grapes, varying from one to four pounds in weight each. A bean was put in a vase for every bunch picked until the beans numbered 7,000. It grows on a sunny slope at the foot-hills, commanding a fine view of the rugged mountains in one direction, and in the other the lovely Montecito Valley, with glimpses of the blue Pacific. The vine is irrigated by waters from the hot-springs, a few miles distant, and the country about the vine is very beautiful and Mexican in its natural and artificial surroundings."

There is attached to this famous grape, a beautiful legend, but we have not the space, to give it to our readers.

TO PACK GRAPES.—A California grape-grower, it is said, keeps his grapes any desirable length of time by packing them, when perfectly free from external moisture, in dry saw-dust, and then burying them in the ground, under a shed. He uses nail casks for packing, because they are easily and cheaply procured, but any cask or box would serve the same purpose. The sawdust must be perfectly dried, either in the sun or in an oven, and the place where the packages are buried must be secured against the possibility of any water settling around them.

There is but one thing which you may be morally certain that an American woman will do when she sits down to the table, in any clime, at any hour, and under any circumstances, and that is, if she be a free agent, she will order a cup of tea. She is almost equally as likely to kiss a baby on first sight. Now, kissing a baby means, with most women, almost devouring it bodily. Strangely enough, such kisses as men give only to women, women always reserve for babies. No lover and no husband in the world can throw one in so fine a frenzy as the sight of a small, roly-poly mass of pink and white flesh, done up in embroidered flannel, tucked nainsook and pink ribbons. But the charm gradually wears away after the child is a year old.

## LADIES DEPARTMENT.

## HOW SOFTLY ON THE BRUISED HEART.

How softly on the bruised heart  
A word of kindness falls,  
And to the dry and parched soul  
The moistening tear-drop calls;  
Oh! if they knew who walked the earth  
'Mid sorrow, grief and pain,  
The power a word of kindness hath,  
'Twere paradise again.

The weakest and the poorest may  
The simple pittance give,  
And bid delight to withered hearts  
Return again and live;  
Oh! what is life if love be lost,  
If man unkind to man?  
Oh! what the heaven that waits beyond  
This brief and mortal span?

As stars upon the tranquil sea  
In mimic glory shine,  
So words of kindness in the heart  
Reflect the source divine;  
Oh, then be kind, whoever thou art  
That breathe'st mortal breath,  
And it shall brighten all thy life  
And sweeten even death.

## THE ONLY TRUE HOME.

The home is never truly home except as the marriage union is sanctified by God, and the whole domestic life is ruled and blessed by the law of the spirit of Jesus Christ! This alone it is that surely exalts and redeems. I care not how bright and beautiful may be the future that now opens itself to affianced hearts, nor how fine the mansion or elegant the appointments which they may call their own, nor how refined their tastes, how choice their associations, or how abundant their stores—theirs is no immunity from peril, nor realization of the highest bliss, unless the Lord of life and glory abide in the house, its ever welcome and cherished guest and friend. A shadow rests upon every family circle where His name is not known, where there is no open or secret voice of prayer, and where there is not inculcated with sedulous care the profoundest reverence for God; for Christ; for Scripture; for the institution and observances of our holy religion; and for the mighty, heavenly truths, principles, and realities that outlast the perishable and fleeting things of earth and time.—This alone it is, I repeat, that truly exalts and redeems, purifying love and strengthening trust, eliminating every discordant element and perfecting every sacred tie, creating in each soul a deeper, tenderer interest for the lasting good of the other, lessening the crosses and glorifying the daily cares of life, giving a juster significance to the marriage union, and a loftier elevation to its multiform experiences and allotments, and diffusing everywhere a gracious atmosphere of sweetness and light.—*Rev. Dr. P. Putnam.*

I do not merely admire woman as the most beautiful object of creation, or love them as the sole sources of happiness; but I reverence them as the redeeming glories of humanity, the sanctuaries of the virtues, the antepasts and pledges of those perfect qualities of the head and heart combined with external and attractive charms, which, by their union, almost exalt the human into the angelic character.—*Zwiss,*

## CHAT WITH THE LADIES FOR JUNE.

BY PATUXENT PLANTER.

"This sweet time, the glory of the spring,  
Young verdurous *June's* delightful opening,  
When leaves are loveliest, and young fruits and  
flowers,  
Fear not the frosts of May's uncertain hours."

"Now genial suns and gentle breezes reign,  
And summer's fairest splendors deck the plain;  
Exulting *Flora* views her new-born rose,  
And all the ground with short-lived beauty glows."

*June* is the rose-month of the year. It is noted for its 21st day, being the longest day in the year, and the summer solstice when the great luminary

"Shoots full perfection thro' the swelling year."

The flower-garden looks perhaps more pleasing to the eye than at any other time of the year. The air is filled with perfume of flowers, and the mouth-watering scent of strawberries. The bedding plants are showing their beauties, azalias, magnolias, pinks and others, lend their several charms to the scene.—Surely, old *Cowley* was right when he said,

"God, the first garden made—the first city, *Cain*."

Two novelties among flowers have been discovered, so rare and wonderful that we are almost tempted to treat them as fable until their verity is established by our own vision. One is a black lily in Santa Clara, California, with three large blossoms, each nine inches long, and perfectly black outside of the green petals. The other is to be seen at Constantinople, and described by an eye-witness as belonging to the narcissus genus of bulbs. The flower represents a perfect humming-bird. The breast, of bright emerald green, is a complete copy of this bird, and the throat, head, beak and eyes are a perfect imitation. The hinder part of the body, and the two outstretched wings, are of a bright rose color, one might almost say flesh-colored. These wondrous bulbs should be sent to the Vienna Exhibition. They will be in abundance by the time of our Centennial Celebration in 1876. And yet they can hardly be greater curiosities than the strange and mysterious "*Santa Spiritu*" flower from South America, with its life-like representation of doves.

It is presumed that our fair friends have their garden in nice order, and all their plants and shrubbery planted, and the annuals coming on finely, so we have to think how they will be kept in this neat dress. Can anyone do it better than the lady owner? Could any exercise give the bloom of health to her cheeks better or more rationally, and with greater self gratification than keeping this beautiful spot in trim and perfect neatness by her own personal work? If you agree with me, let me tell you what you will want to enable you with ease and comfort to aid you efficiently. First, a sun-bonnet and pair of stout gloves. The implements you will need will be a small spade and trowel, a little hoe, small rake, a hoe with prongs on the top, small shears and garden scissors, one large and one small watering pot, a few hand glasses, and a dozen or so of trellises of different sizes and shapes, made of painted wire; a few neat bird-houses, made of iron or china ware, or rustic bird cottages. To these add a supply of cheap flower pots of different sizes, mostly small ones. Then you have all the accessories you want to "dress and keep" your lovely garden. If this homely epistle shall be the means of any one of you trying this system of restoring a bloom which the rigors of the past winter may



have stolen from you by keeping you in-doors, and losing that out-door exercise so essential to good health, I shall be truly happy.

In addition to what I have said heretofore about ladies studying botany, and acquiring a knowledge of flowers and plants, I would beg leave to ask my lady friends to read what one of their own sex, Mrs. J. A. Blair, eloquently writes, as follows:

"The education of woman cannot be regarded as complete in all the refinements without a knowledge of floriculture. What to her is a knowledge of the dead languages if she cannot converse with the living flowers? What to her is the French dialect if she cannot teach the silent tongue of the floweret to speak? What to her to be able to count and appellate the stars so far above, and blush in ignorance of the name and structure of the smiling flowers at her feet. In this respect the education of woman should in no wise be neglected. No mother with children under her charge, no wife with a husband whose heart she delights to gladden, can afford to be destitute of this knowledge of the beautiful. As knowledge refines the feelings of the soul, so do the feelings of the soul beautify nature, and she who through this proper knowledge appreciates these beauties will find them gathering about her. No difference how humble her cottage or limited her means, like angels' spirits or divine agencies, they will come to cheer and felicitate her and hers, purifying and sanctifying the associations of her home. What would life be? What would home be, without these creatures of loveliness and perfume, or without the faculty within us to enjoy and appreciate them? In this we perceive, and must acknowledge, the goodness of God."

But a knowledge of botany, and the various mental accomplishments, only help to please the mind; we must supply the "inner-man" with food, and ladies should understand the art of house-keeping, which rests chiefly on the culinary art. A successful dish does much to calm the rugged temper of many men, for like music, "it hath charms to sooth the savage beast." I therefore give you a recipe for a very humble, but generally very acceptable, breakfast dish:

*To Boil Grits for Breakfast.*—Take one coffee cup of grits, steep over night in one pint of water, boil in the same until well cooked, resembling thick mush; replenishing from time to time, while cooking, with boiling water. Be careful not to burn. Add salt to suit the taste while boiling, and when thoroughly cooked, season with butter and serve up hot.

*For the Maryland Farmer.*

### THE ROSE.

"While we invoke the wreath'd spring,  
Resplendent rose! to thee we'll sing;  
Resplendent rose, the flower of flowers  
Whose breath perfumes Olympus' bowers."

"Flora having found the corpse of a favorite nymph, whose beauty of person was only surpassed by the purity of her heart and mind, resolved to raise a plant from the precious remains, for which purpose she invoked the aid of all the Deities that preside over our gardens, to assist in the transformation of the nymph into a flower that was to be proclaimed Queen of all the vegetable beauties. The ceremony was attended by the Zephyrs, who cleared the atmosphere, in order that Apollo might bless the new-created progeny with his beams. Bacchus supplied rivers of nectar to nourish it, and Vertumnus poured his choicest perfume over the plant, when the metamorphosis was complete. Pomona strewed her fruit over the young branches, and Flora crowned it with a diadem prepared by the celestials to distinguish the Queen of Flowers."

"The Gods beheld this brilliant birth,  
And gave the rose, a boon to earth,"

There are roses everywhere. Nature has scattered them with lavish prodigality over the whole earth—in every land it is the universal favorite, and has been for ages the painter's model and the poet's theme, each alike failing to do justice to its charms.

"And thou once was doomed  
When civil discord braved the field,  
To grace the banner and the shield."

The rose mingles in our gaieties, our happiness, and our sorrows. We gather them for our "bridals and our burials," and often life's happiest moment may be in the memory of the flower plucked to adorn a bride, or grace a bier. The beautiful bud, the half blown flower, or the expanded rose in the full perfection of its beauty, at every stage, claims our admiration, and the delightful perfume stealing over our senses, carries us in imagination to that land

"Where the light wings of Zephyr, oppressed with perfume,  
Wax faint o'er the gardens of Gul in their bloom."

Of all the many flowers that adorn the earth there are but two mentioned in the Holy Scriptures—one is the rose, and although the wild rose was common in Palestine, it is generally supposed the flower so beautifully alluded to by Solomon, was a bulbous rooted plant, that grows luxuriantly upon the plains of Sharon. The gardeners, botanists, and floral amateurs, are continually in a high state of excitement over some new developments, and great and wonderful results have been achieved by skilful culture.—Yet, 'tis the same flower that crept through the tangled brakes of Eden and shed its perfume and scattered its blossoms around Adam's first home.

It is a singular fact, mentioned by Prof. Agassiz, "that no fossils of the rose family have ever been found by geologists." This is regarded by scientific men as proof that the introduction of this plant upon the earth was coeval with or subsequent to the creation of man, and was designed by a kind Providence to minister to his happiness. WICOMICO.

### THE VOICELESS.

BY OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES.

We count the broken lyres that rest  
Where the sweet wailing singers slumber,  
But o'er their silent sister's breast  
The wild flowers who will stoop to number?  
A few may touch the magic string,  
And noisy fame be proud to win them;  
Alas, for those that never sing,  
But die with with all their music in them.

Nay, grieve not for the dead alone,  
Where song has told their sad heart's story;  
Weep for the voiceless who have known  
The cross without the crown of glory!  
Not where Leucadian breezes sleep  
O'er Sappho's memory-haunted pillow,  
But where the glistening night dews weep  
O'er nameless sorrow's church-yard willow.

O hearts that break and give no sign,  
Save whitening lip and faded tresses,  
Till death pours out his cordial wine,  
Slow dropped from a misery's crushing presses,  
If singing breath or echoing chord,  
To every hidden pang were given,  
What endless melodies were poured,  
As sad as earth, as sweet as heaven!

Care will kill a cat, but there is no living without it.

## THE FLORIST.

**NEW DOUBLE FUCHSIA—CHAMPION OF THE WORLD.**—This is by far the largest fuchsia we possess. The foot stalks are of unusual length and strength, so that the flowers stand out boldly. The tube is short, the sepals are very broad and of great substance, well reflexed and of a most beautiful coral red. The corolla is of immense size, and as it expands forms two-thirds of a perfect ball, its color being of the most intensely bright, though dark purple. The plant is of fine growth, tall, and blooms abundantly, so that for conservatory decoration it is one of the most valuable fuchsias yet sent out.—*Gardener's Monthly*.

**REMEDY FOR SLUGS.**—A correspondent of the *Gardener's Chronicle* says that he has found gas-tar water, diluted to the color of weak coffee, to be the best preventive to the ravages of slugs on all garden crops, and also an excellent manure, applying it by night from an ordinary watering pot, and half the slugs will be killed, and the rest much weakened. A second dose, after an interval of a week, is sufficient to banish them altogether.

**HARDINESS OF THE PRIMULA JAPONICA.**—The *Florist* says there can be no doubt of it, for the plants have stood all winter, fully exposed, in the trying atmosphere of London. The *Floral Magazine* says: "A Primula, a foot and a half high, bearing four or five separate whorls of flowers, each flower an inch in diameter and of a splendid magenta color, and the plant perfectly hardy! Can anything be added to this, to indicate its value?"

**JUNIPERUS EXCELSA STRICTA.**—This new evergreen shrub is recommended by the English journals for planting on terraces and in similar situations. Its form is pyramidal and elegant, the color of its leaves silvery; the young plants are very striking.

**A FINE WHITE ROSE.**—"Madam Plantier" is one of the best of the new white roses. It is a profuse bloomer, has fine foliage, and the plant is represented as being as hardy as a common brier.

**NEW TEA ROSE.**—It is stated that a new Tea Rose, called *Perte de Lyon*, has been raised in France. This novelty is said to resemble Marshal Neil, but being only more beautiful.

**MILDEW ON ROSES.**—Carbolic soap and water is recommended to destroy mildew on roses, to be applied by sprinkling.

**CROCUSES OF VARIED COLOR.**—The following are named as worthy varieties:—Dandy blue, with white tips and purple base; King of the Blues, violet blue, very fine; Mont Blanc, pure white; La Majestueuse, petals broad, pale mauve, with a purple base, large and fine; Contesse de Morny, large blush with a purple base and striped, and Louis Philippe, bluish purple, very large and fine.

A Virginia paper describes a fence which is made of such crooked rails that every time a pig crawls through he comes out on the same side.

## CURIOUS HABITS OF PLANTS.

From "How Plants Behave," by Prof. Gray, we extract the following:

"Some Orchids, whether wild ones, such as Ladies Tresses, or those various and more gorgeous ones, mostly air plants of tropical regions, which adorn rich conservatories, curiously resemble butterflies, either a swarm of them, as some of the smaller ones in a cluster on a long, light stalk, fluttering with every breath of air; some are like a large, single, gorgeous, orange and spotted butterfly; another takes its name from the resemblance of its flowers to a moth. Can the likeness be a sort of decoy to allure the very kinds of insect that are wanted for fertilizing these flowers? \* \* When a fresh and active tendril in climbing comes in contact with a neighboring stalk, or any similar support, it hooks or coils its end round it, then having secured a hold, it shortens by coiling up its whole length, or a good part of it. This commonly draws up the climbing stem, nearer to its support, and makes it easier for the younger tendrils above to gain their hold. A tendril which has taken hold and coiled up, usually becomes stouter, rigid, and much stronger than it was before. One which would break with an ounce weight, becomes capable of supporting two or three pounds."

## THE DOME OF THE CAPITOL.

The dome of the Capitol at Washington is the most ambitious structure in America. It is 108 feet higher than the Washington Monument in Baltimore, sixty-eight feet higher than Bunker Hill, and twenty-three feet higher than the Trinity Church tower at New York. It is the only considerable dome of iron in the world. It is a vast hollow sphere of iron, weighing 8,000,000 pounds. How much is that? Nearly 4,000 tons, or about the weight of 70,000 full grown people, or about equal to 1,000 laden cars, which, holding four tons each, would reach two miles and a half. Directly over your head is a figure in bronze, "America," 14,985 pounds. The pressure of the iron dome upon its piers and pillars is 13,477 pounds to the square foot. St. Peter presses nearly 20,000 pounds more to the square foot, and St. Genevieve, at Paris, 66,000 pounds more. It would require to crush the supporters of our dome a pressure of 557,270 pounds to the square foot. The cost was about \$1,000,000. The new wings cost \$6,500,000. The architect has a plan for rebuilding the old central part of the Capitol, and enlarging the park, which will cost about \$3,200,000.

Better ten guilty escape than one innocent man suffer.